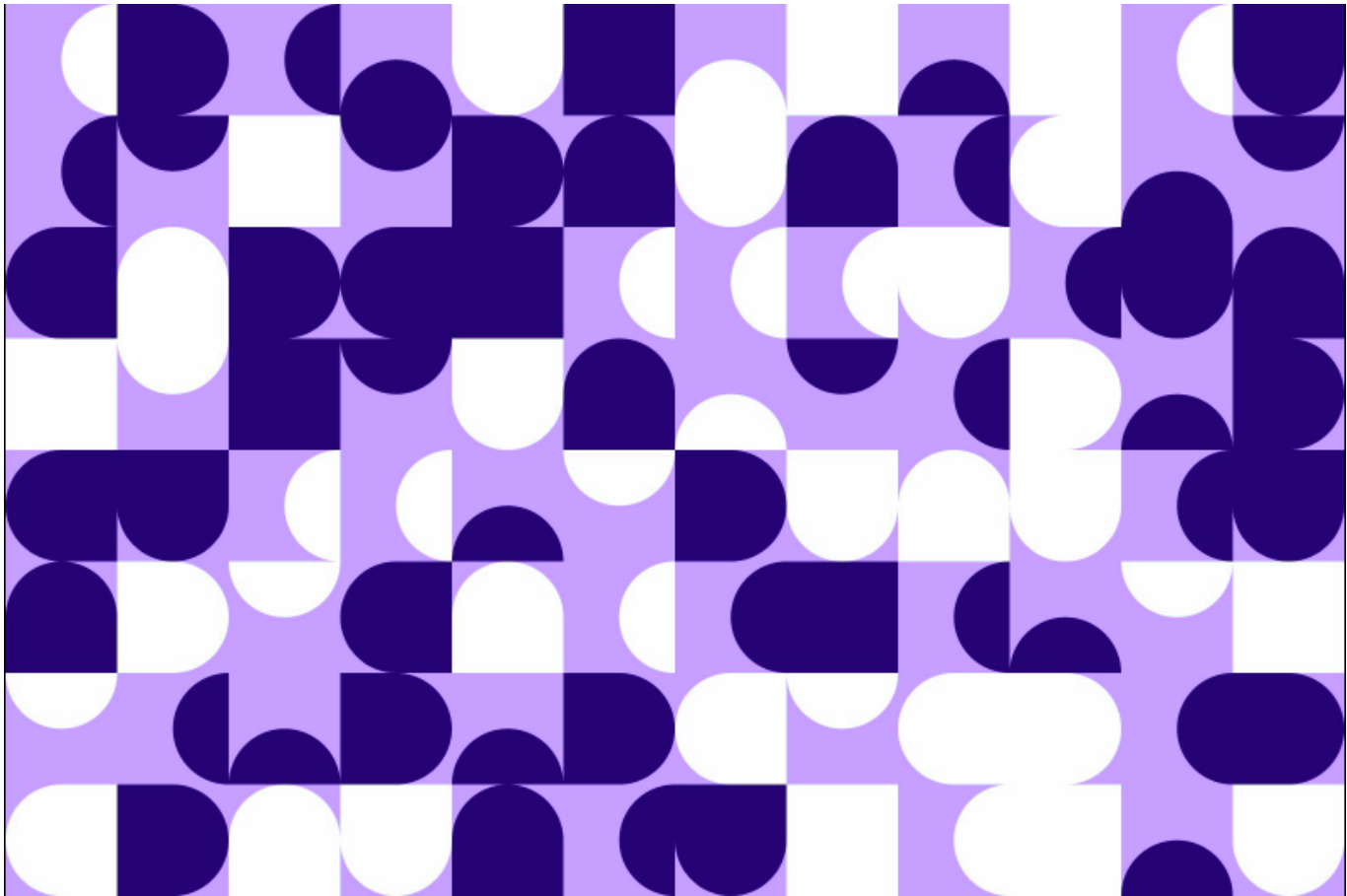




Pyrls Press — 2024

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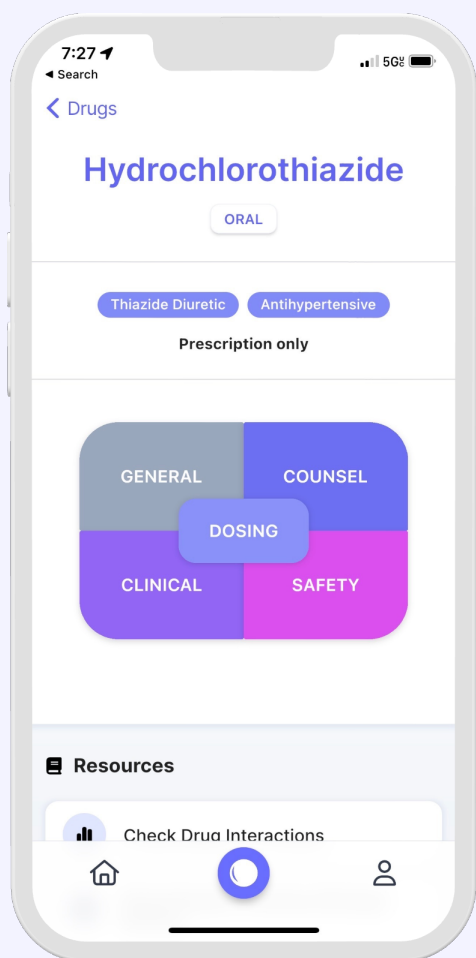
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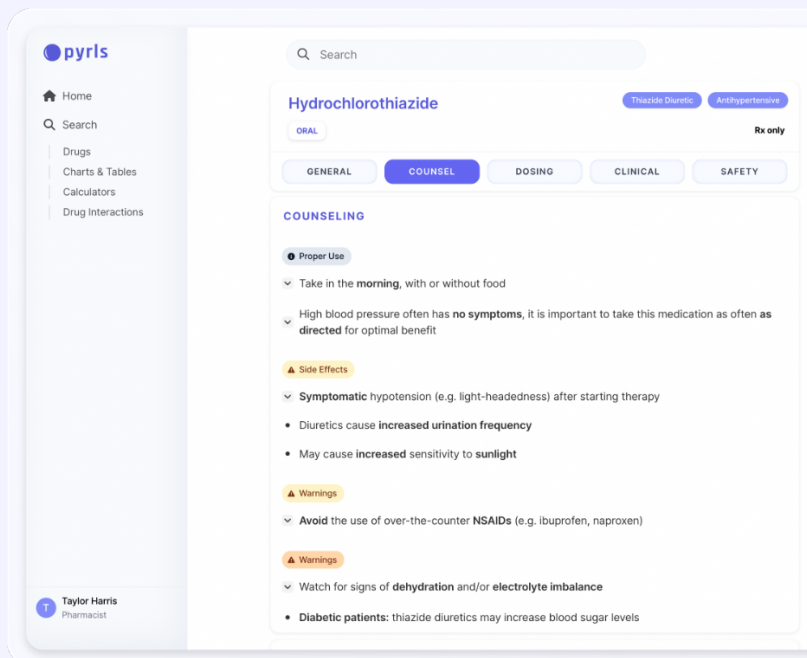
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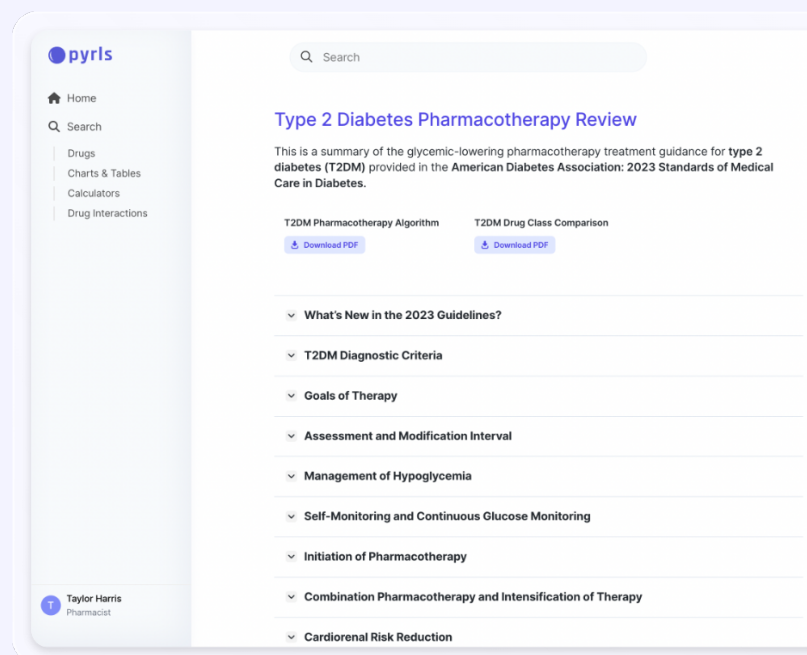
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# Asthma Management in Ages 12+ Years



Based on the 2023 Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) Report

More clinical pearls at [pyrls.com](https://pyrls.com)

**Asthma management is an individualized, continuous cycle of assessment, treatment/adjustment, and review**

## Assess

- Confirm or evaluate diagnosis, if necessary
- Symptom control & modifiable risk factors
- Comorbidities
- Patient goals & inhaler technique/adherence

## Adjust

- Treat comorbidities, & modifiable risk factors
- Utilize non-pharmacotherapy, if possible
- Add/adjust asthma medications
- Educate and train skills and proper use

## Review

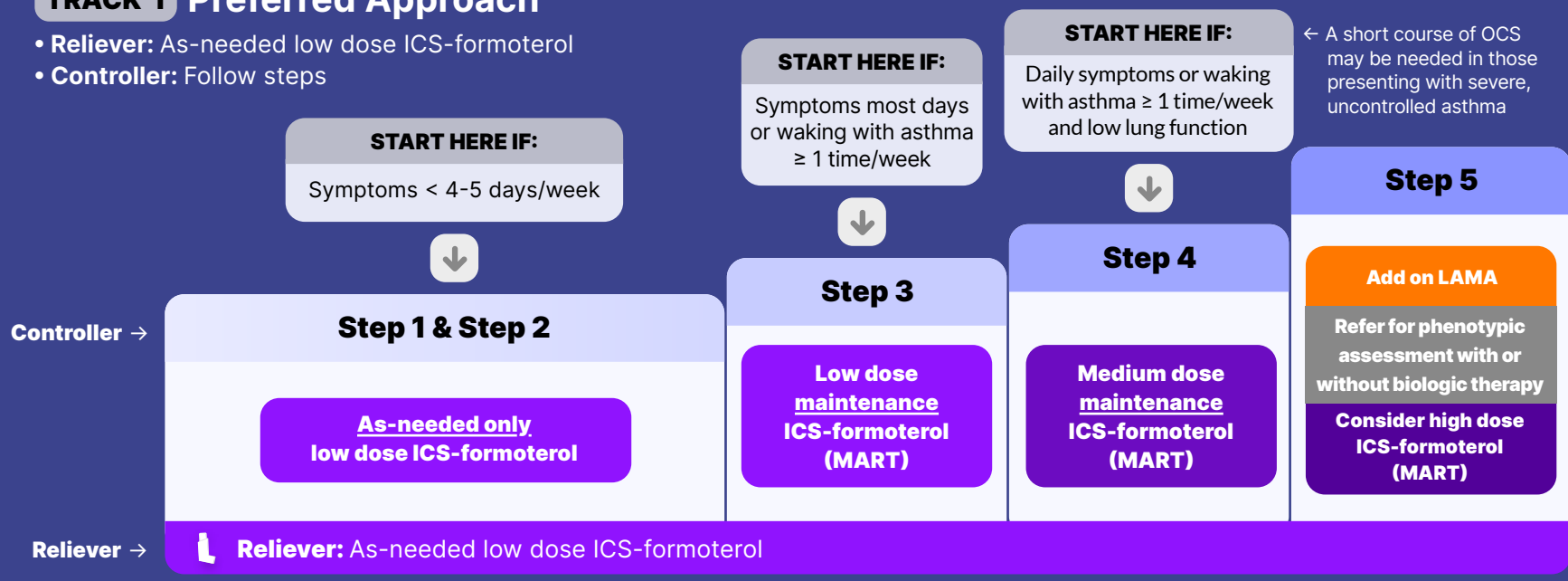
- Symptoms, lung function
- Asthma exacerbations
- Medication/treatment side effects
- Patient satisfaction, quality of life

## Repeat

- Assess
- Adjust
- Review

## TRACK 1 Preferred Approach

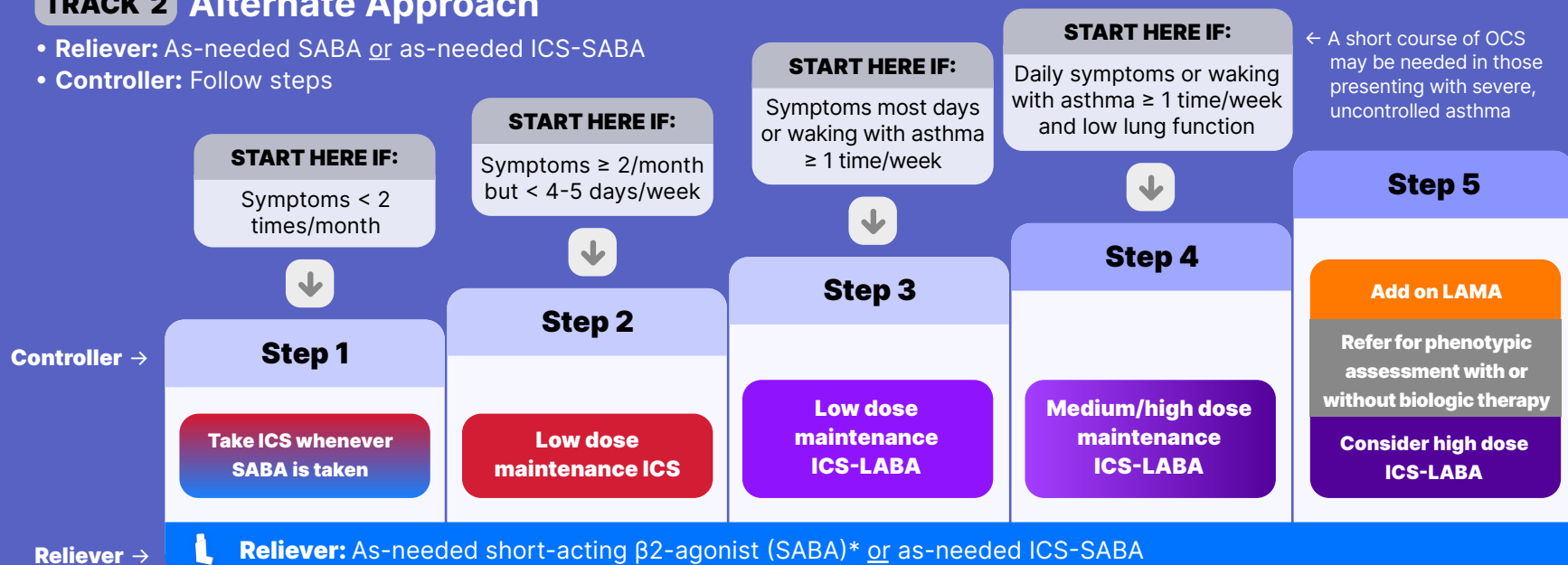
- **Reliever:** As-needed low dose ICS-formoterol
- **Controller:** Follow steps



**The alternate approach is reasonable when:** preferred approach is not possible, if patient is stable on their current therapy (e.g., no exacerbation within the past year), or alternate approach is preferred by the patient

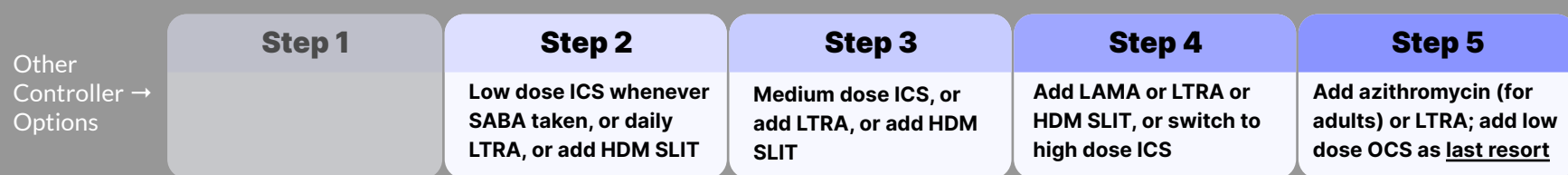
## TRACK 2 Alternate Approach

- **Reliever:** As-needed SABA or as-needed ICS-SABA
- **Controller:** Follow steps



\*If considering SABA reliever, confirm that the patient is likely to be adherent to daily controller treatment

## Other Controller Options for use in either approach



**HDM:** house dust mite; **ICS:** inhaled corticosteroid; **LABA:** long-acting beta-2 agonist; **LAMA:** long-acting muscarinic antagonist; **LTRA:** leukotriene receptor antagonist; **MART:** maintenance and reliever therapy; **OCS:** oral corticosteroids; **SABA:** short-acting beta-2 agonist; **SLIT:** sublingual immunotherapy

# Asthma Management in Ages 11 Years and Under



Based on the 2023 Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) Report

More clinical pearls at [pyrls.com](https://pyrls.com)

**Asthma management is an individualized, continuous cycle of assessment, treatment/adjustment, and review**

## Assess

- Confirm or evaluate diagnosis, if necessary
- Symptom control & modifiable risk factors
- Comorbidities
- Patient goals & inhaler technique/adherence

## Adjust

- Treat comorbidities, & modifiable risk factors
- Utilize non-pharmacotherapy, if possible
- Add/adjust asthma medications
- Educate and train skills and proper use

## Review

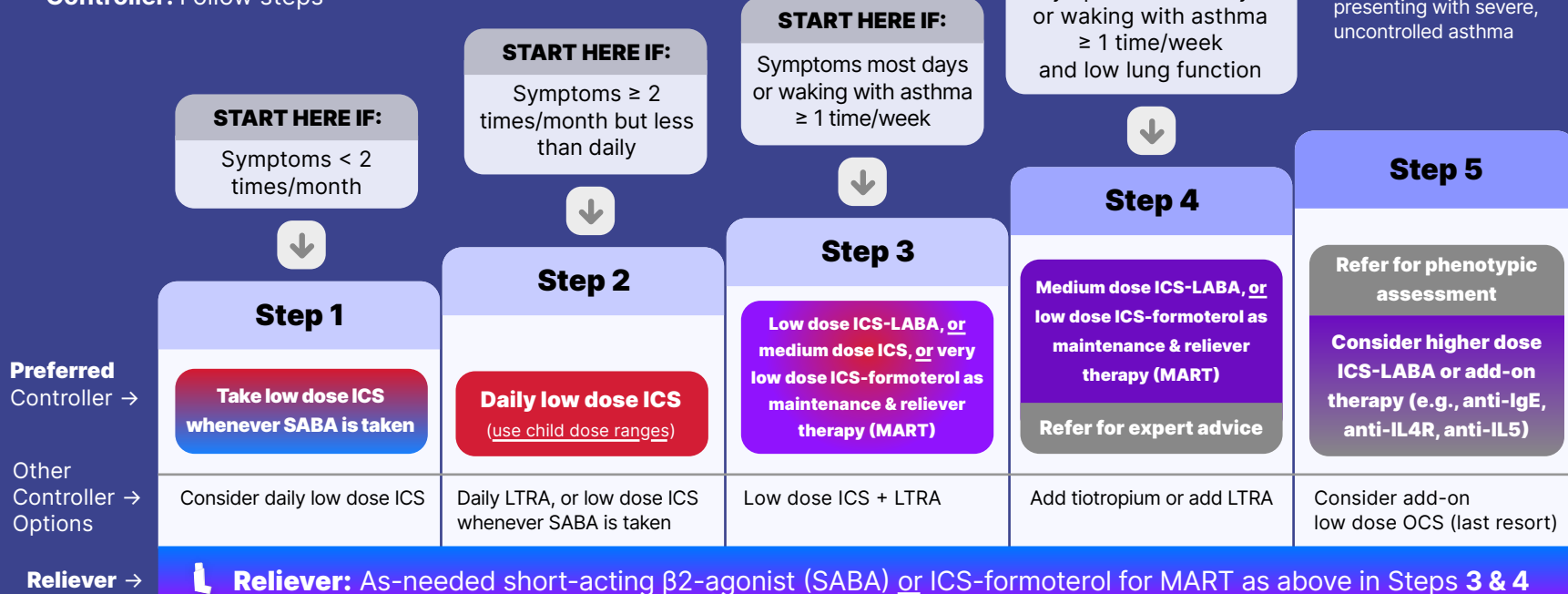
- Symptoms, lung function
- Asthma exacerbations
- Medication/treatment side effects
- Patient satisfaction, quality of life

## Repeat

- Assess
- Adjust
- Review

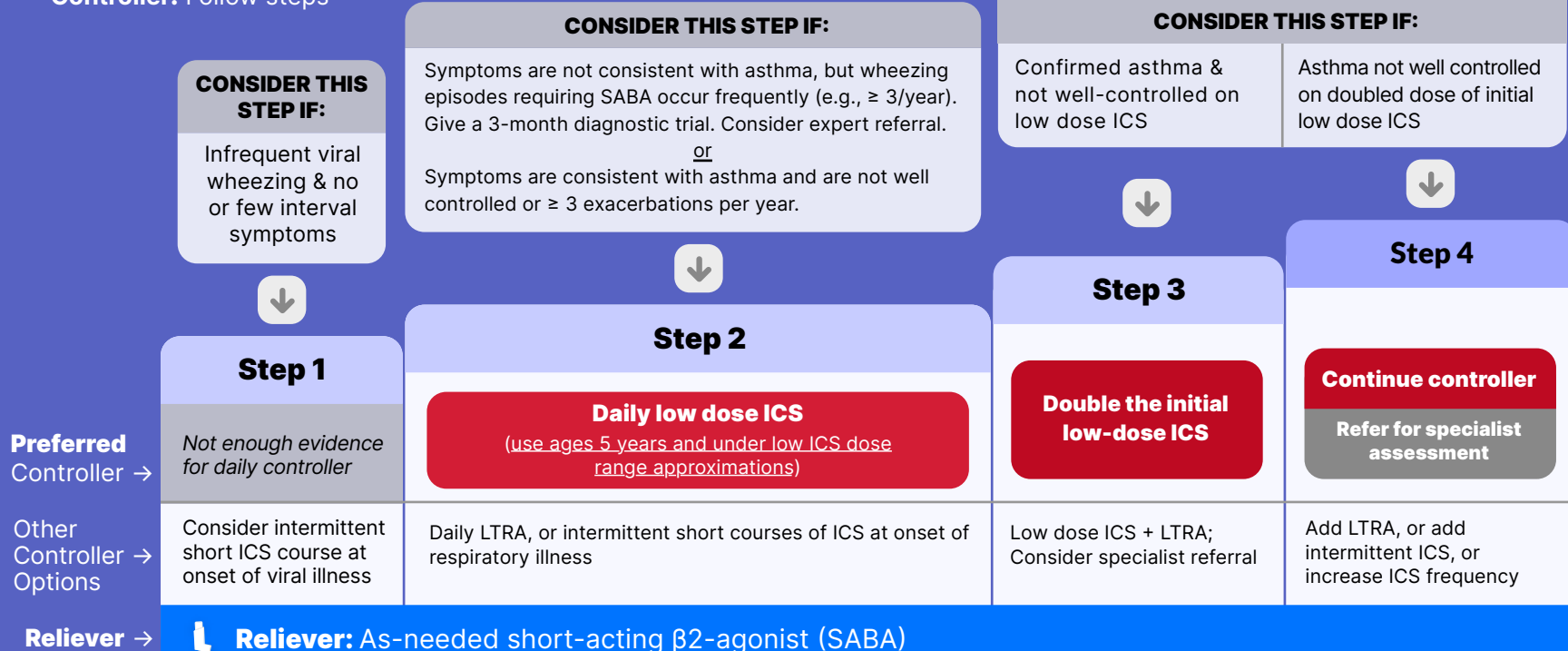
## Children ages 6-11 years

- **Reliever:** As-needed SABA or low dose ICS-formoterol for MART (Steps 3-4)
- **Controller:** Follow steps



## Children ages 5 years and younger

- **Reliever:** As-needed SABA
- **Controller:** Follow steps



ICS: inhaled corticosteroid; LABA: long-acting beta-2 agonist; LAMA: long-acting muscarinic antagonist; LTRA: leukotriene receptor antagonist; MART: maintenance and reliever therapy; OCS: oral corticosteroids; SABA: short-acting beta-2 agonist



## SABA SHORT-ACTING BETA-2 AGONIST



**ProAir HFA** <sup>ⓐ</sup>  
METERED DOSE (200 inhalations)  
**Albuterol**

4+



**ProAir Respiclick**  
DRY POWDER (200 inhalations)  
**Albuterol**

4+



**ProAir Digihaler**  
DRY POWDER (200 inhalations)  
**Albuterol**

4+



**Proventil HFA** <sup>ⓐ</sup>  
METERED DOSE (200 inhalations)  
**Albuterol**

4+



**Ventolin HFA** <sup>ⓐ</sup>  
METERED DOSE (200 inhalations)  
**Albuterol**

4+



**Xopenex HFA** <sup>ⓐ</sup>  
METERED DOSE (200 inhalations)  
**Levalbuterol**

4+



## SABA + ICS COMBINATION



**Airsupra**  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Albuterol/Budesonide**

18+



## SAMA SHORT-ACTING MUSCARINIC ANTAGONIST



**Atrovent HFA**  
METERED DOSE (200 inhalations)  
**Ipratropium**

C



## SAMA + SABA COMBINATION



**Combivent Respimat**  
SOFT MIST (120 inhalations)  
**Ipratropium/Albuterol**

C



## LABA LONG-ACTING BETA-2 AGONIST



**Serevent Diskus** <sup>4+</sup> <sup>4+</sup> <sup>C</sup>  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Salmeterol**



**Striverdi Respimat**  
SOFT MIST (60 inhalations)  
**Olodaterol**

C



## LAMA LONG-ACTING MUSCARINIC ANTAGONIST



**Incruse Ellipta**  
DRY POWDER (30 inhalations)  
**Umeclidinium**

C



**Spiriva Handihaler**  
DRY POWDER (30 doses [2 inhalations/capsule])  
**Tiotropium**

C



**Spiriva Respimat** <sup>6+</sup> <sup>C</sup>  
SOFT MIST (60 inhalations)  
**Tiotropium**

6+



**Tudorza Pressair**  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Aclidinium**

C



## LAMA + LABA COMBINATION



**Anoro Ellipta**  
DRY POWDER (30 inhalations)  
**Umeclidinium/Vilanterol**

C



**Bevespi Aerosphere**  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Glycopyrrolate/Formoterol**

C



**Duaklir Pressair**  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Aclidinium/Formoterol**

C



**Stiolto Respimat**  
SOFT MIST (60 inhalations)  
**Tiotropium/Olodaterol**

C



## ICS + LABA + LABA COMBINATION



**Breztri Aerosphere** <sup>C</sup>  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Budesonide/Glycopyrrolate/Formoterol**

C



## ICS INHALED CORTICOSTEROID



**Alvesco** <sup>12+</sup>  
METERED DOSE (60 inhalations)  
**Ciclesonide**

12+



**ArmonAir Digihaler** <sup>12+</sup>  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone propionate**

12+



**Arnuity Ellipta** <sup>5+</sup>  
DRY POWDER (30 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone furoate**

5+



**Asmanex Twisthaler** <sup>4+</sup>  
DRY POWDER (110 mcg: 30 inhalations; 220 mcg: 120 inhalations)  
**Mometasone**

4+



**Asmanex HFA** <sup>5+</sup>  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Mometasone**

5+



**Flovent Diskus** <sup>4+</sup> Brand discontinued; Authorized generic available  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone propionate**

4+



**Flovent HFA** <sup>4+</sup> Brand discontinued; Authorized generic available  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone propionate**

4+



**Pulmicort Flexhaler** <sup>6+</sup>  
DRY POWDER (90 mcg: 60 inhalations; 180 mcg: 120 inhalations)  
**Budesonide**

6+



**QVAR RediHaler** <sup>4+</sup>  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Beclomethasone**

4+



**Trelegy Ellipta** <sup>18+</sup> <sup>C</sup>  
DRY POWDER (30 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone furoate/Umeclidinium/Vilanterol**

18+



## ICS + LABA COMBINATION



**Advair Diskus** <sup>ⓐ</sup> <sup>4+</sup> <sup>C</sup>  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone prop./Salmeterol**

4+



**Advair HFA** <sup>ⓐ</sup> <sup>12+</sup>  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone prop./Salmeterol**

12+



**AirDuo RespiClick** <sup>ⓐ</sup> <sup>12+</sup>  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone prop./Salmeterol**

12+



**AirDuo Digihaler** <sup>12+</sup>  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone prop./Salmeterol**

12+



**Breo Ellipta** <sup>5+</sup> <sup>C</sup>  
DRY POWDER (30 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone furoate/Vilanterol**

5+



**Breyna** <sup>6+</sup> <sup>C</sup> Generic for Symbicort  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Budesonide/Formoterol**

6+



**Dulera** <sup>5+</sup>  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Mometasone/Formoterol**

5+



**Symbicort** <sup>ⓐ</sup> <sup>6+</sup> <sup>C</sup>  
METERED DOSE (120 inhalations)  
**Budesonide/Formoterol**

6+



**Wixela Inhub** <sup>4+</sup> <sup>C</sup> Generic for Advair Diskus  
DRY POWDER (60 inhalations)  
**Fluticasone prop./Salmeterol**

4+

FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS\* <sup>#</sup> = Age (years) approved for asthma <sup>#</sup> = Age (years) approved for bronchospasms <sup>C</sup> = Approved for COPD

\*SABAs are FDA-approved for bronchospasms in reversible obstructive airway diseases and exercise-induced bronchospasm (EIB), except Xopenex (levalbuterol) is not indicated for EIB; Airsupra (albuterol/budesonide) is indicated as-needed for bronchoconstriction and to reduce the risk of exacerbations in asthma; Serevent Diskus (salmeterol) is indicated for EIB, asthma (in addition to an ICS), and COPD. Indications and evidence for individual agents are subject to change and geographic variability.

Updated 1/2024

<sup>ⓐ</sup> Authorized generic available

<sup>ⓐ</sup> Both authorized generic and branded generic available

pyrls

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administration  
resources



|                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                         |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Acclidinium</b><br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist                                                                                | TUDORZA PRESSAIR™<br>400 mcg                                                                                                                            | C          |
| <b>Acclidinium/Formoterol</b><br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist/<br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist                                      | DUAKLIR PRESSAIR®<br>400/12 mcg                                                                                                                         | C          |
| <b>Albuterol</b><br>Short-Acting Beta-2 Agonist                                                                                        | PROAIR®,<br>PROVENTIL®,<br>VENTOLIN®<br>90 mcg                                                                                                          | 4+         |
| Authorized generics available                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                         |            |
| <b>Albuterol/Budesonide</b><br>Short-Acting Beta-2 Agonist/<br>Inhaled Corticosteroid                                                  | AIRSUPRA™<br>90/80 mcg                                                                                                                                  | 18+        |
| <b>Beclomethasone</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid                                                                                        | QVAR REDIHALER®<br>40, 80 mcg                                                                                                                           | 4+         |
| <b>Budesonide</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid                                                                                            | PULMICORT FLEXHALER®<br>90, 180 mcg                                                                                                                     | 6+         |
| <b>Budesonide/Formoterol</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid/<br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist                                                  | SYMBICORT®<br>80/4.5, 160/4.5 mcg<br><br>Generics: Both an authorized generic and Breynd available                                                      | 6+ C       |
| <b>Budesonide/Glycopyrrolate/Formoterol</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid/<br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist/Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist | BREZTRI<br>AEROSPHERE™<br>160/9/4.8 mcg                                                                                                                 | C          |
| <b>Ciclesonide</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid                                                                                           | ALVESCO®<br>80, 160 mcg                                                                                                                                 | 12+        |
| <b>Fluticasone furoate</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid                                                                                   | ARNUITY ELLIPTA®<br>50, 100, 200 mcg                                                                                                                    | 5+         |
| <b>Fluticasone propionate</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid                                                                                | ARMONAIR DIGIHALER®<br>55, 113, 232 mcg<br>FLOVENT DISKUS®<br>50, 100, 250 mcg<br>FLOVENT® HFA<br>44, 110, 220 mcg                                      | 12+ 4+ 4+  |
| Flovent products are not available;<br>Only their authorized generics are available                                                    |                                                                                                                                                         |            |
| <b>Fluticasone/Salmeterol</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid/<br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist                                                 | AIRDUO® [RespiClick/Digihaler]<br>55/14, 113/14, 232/14 mcg<br>ADVAIR DISKUS®<br>100/50, 250/50, 500/50 mcg<br>ADVAIR® HFA<br>45/21, 115/21, 230/21 mcg | 12+ 4+ 12+ |
| Advair HFA, AirDuo: Authorized generics available<br>Advair Diskus: Both an authorized generic and Wixela Inhub available              |                                                                                                                                                         |            |
| <b>Fluticasone/Umeclidinium/Vilanterol</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid/<br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist/Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist  | TRELEGY ELLIPTA®<br>100/62.5/25 mcg<br>200/62.5/25 mcg                                                                                                  | 18+ C      |

#### FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS\*

# = Age (years) approved for asthma

# = Age (years) approved for bronchospasms

C = Approved for COPD

Updated 12/2023

\*SABAs are FDA-approved for bronchospasms in reversible obstructive airway diseases and exercised-induced bronchospasm (EIB), except Xopenex (levalbuterol), which is not indicated for EIB; Airsupra (albuterol/budesonide) is indicated as-needed for bronchoconstriction and to reduce the risk of exacerbations in asthma; Serevent Diskus (salmeterol) is indicated for EIB, asthma (in addition to an ICS), and COPD. Indications and evidence are subject to change and geographic variability.

|                                                                                                      |                                                                         |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Fluticasone/Vilanterol</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid/<br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist               | BREO ELLIPTA®<br>50/25, 100/25, 200/25 mcg                              | 5+ C    |
| <b>Glycopyrrolate/Formoterol</b><br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist/<br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist | BEVESPI<br>AEROSPHERE®<br>9/4.8 mcg                                     | C       |
| <b>Ipratropium</b><br>Short-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist                                             | ATROVENT® HFA<br>~17 mcg                                                | C       |
| <b>Ipratropium/Albuterol</b><br>Short-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist/<br>Short-Acting Beta-2 Agonist   | COMBIVENT RESPIMAT®<br>20/100 mcg                                       | C       |
| <b>Levalbuterol</b><br>Short-Acting Beta-2 Agonist                                                   | Xopenex®<br>45 mcg                                                      | 4+      |
| Authorized generic available                                                                         |                                                                         |         |
| <b>Mometasone</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid                                                          | ASMANEX TWISTHALER®<br>110, 220 mcg<br>ASMANEX® HFA<br>50, 100, 200 mcg | 4+ 5+   |
| <b>Mometasone/Formoterol</b><br>Inhaled Corticosteroid/<br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist                | DULERA®<br>50/5, 100/5, 200/5 mcg                                       | 5+      |
| <b>Olodaterol</b><br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist                                                      | STRIVERDI RESPIMAT®<br>2.5 mcg                                          | C       |
| <b>Salmeterol</b><br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist                                                      | SEREVENT DISKUS®<br>50 mcg                                              | 4+ 4+ C |
| <b>Tiotropium</b><br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist                                               | SPIRIVA HANDIHALER®<br>18 mcg<br>SPIRIVA RESPIMAT®<br>1.25, 2.5 mcg     | C 6+ C  |
| <b>Tiotropium/Olodaterol</b><br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist/<br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist     | STIOLTO RESPIMAT®<br>2.5/2.5 mcg                                        | C       |
| <b>Umeclidinium</b><br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist                                             | INCRUSE ELLIPTA®<br>62.5 mcg                                            | C       |
| <b>Umeclidinium/Vilanterol</b><br>Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist/<br>Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonist   | ANORO ELLIPTA®<br>62.5/25 mcg                                           | C       |



#### ICS DAILY DOSE CATEGORIZATION

IN ADULTS AND CHILDREN AGE 6 YEARS AND UP

| ICS (DELIVERY)                   | TOTAL DAILY DOSE (MCG/DAY) |         |          |      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------|------|
|                                  | Age                        | Low     | Medium   | High |
| <b>Beclomethasone (MDI)</b>      | 12+ years                  | 100-200 | >200-400 | >400 |
|                                  | 6-11 years                 | 50-100  | >100-200 | >200 |
| <b>Budesonide (DPI)</b>          | 12+ years                  | 200-400 | >400-800 | >800 |
|                                  | 6-11 years                 | 100-200 | >200-400 | >400 |
| <b>Ciclesonide (MDI)</b>         | 12+ years                  | 80-160  | >160-320 | >320 |
|                                  | 6-11 years                 | 80      | >80-160  | >160 |
| <b>Fluticasone furoate (DPI)</b> | 12+ years                  | 100     | 100      | 200  |
|                                  | 6-11 years                 | 50      | 50       | N/A  |
| <b>Fluticasone prop. (DPI)</b>   | 12+ years                  | 100-250 | >250-500 | >500 |
|                                  | 6-11 years                 | 50-100  | >100-200 | >200 |
| <b>Fluticasone prop. (MDI)</b>   | 12+ years                  | 100-250 | >250-500 | >500 |
|                                  | 6-11 years                 | 50-100  | >100-200 | >200 |
| <b>Mometasone (DPI)</b>          | 12+ years                  | 200     | 200      | 400  |
|                                  | 6-11 years                 | N/A     | N/A      | N/A  |
| <b>Mometasone (MDI)</b>          | 12+ years                  | 200-400 | 200-400  | >400 |
|                                  | 6-11 years                 | 100     | 100      | 200  |



#### ICS DAILY LOW DOSE CATEGORIZATION

IN CHILDREN AGE 5 YEARS AND YOUNGER

| ICS (DELIVERY)                   | LOW TOTAL DAILY DOSE (MCG/DAY)<br>(Age group with adequate safety & efficacy data) |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Beclomethasone (MDI)</b>      | 50 (ages 5+ years)                                                                 |
| <b>Budesonide (nebulized)</b>    | 500 (ages 1+ years)                                                                |
| <b>Ciclesonide (MDI)</b>         | Not sufficiently studied in age 5 and under                                        |
| <b>Fluticasone furoate (DPI)</b> | 50 (ages 5+ years)                                                                 |
| <b>Fluticasone prop. (MDI)</b>   | 50 (ages 4+ years)                                                                 |
| <b>Mometasone (MDI)</b>          | 100 (ages 5+ years)                                                                |

References: 2023 GINA Report: Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention, FDA Prescribing Information for the individual medications.

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Age 12+

## ICS Inhaler Estimated Dose Categories in Adults and Adolescents 12 Years and Older

Age 12+

| Brand                       | Alvesco                        | Arnuity Ellipta                          | Asmanex HFA                              | Asmanex Twisthaler                  | Flovent Diskus                           | Flovent HFA                              | Pulmicort Flexhaler           | QVAR ReditHaler                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Generic Delivery            | Ciclesonide<br>METERED DOSE    | Fluticasone furoate<br>DRY POWDER        | Mometasone<br>METERED DOSE               | Mometasone<br>DRY POWDER            | Fluticasone prop.<br>DRY POWDER          | Fluticasone prop.<br>METERED DOSE        | Budesonide<br>DRY POWDER      | Beclomethasone<br>METERED DOSE |
| Indication                  | <span>A</span> Asthma: 12+ yrs | <span>A</span> Asthma: 5+ yrs            | <span>A</span> Asthma: 5+ yrs            | <span>A</span> Asthma: 4+ yrs       | <span>A</span> Asthma: 4+ yrs            | <span>A</span> Asthma: 4+ yrs            | <span>A</span> Asthma: 6+ yrs | <span>A</span> Asthma: 4+ yrs  |
| Available Product Strengths | 80 mcg/inh<br>160 mcg/inh      | 50 mcg/inh<br>100 mcg/inh<br>200 mcg/inh | 50 mcg/inh<br>100 mcg/inh<br>200 mcg/inh | 110 mcg/inh<br>220 mcg/inh          | 50 mcg/inh<br>100 mcg/inh<br>250 mcg/inh | 44 mcg/inh<br>110 mcg/inh<br>220 mcg/inh | 90 mcg/inh<br>180 mcg/inh     | 40 mcg/inh<br>80 mcg/inh       |
| Low Dose†                   | 1 puff<br>BID                  | 1 inh.<br>QD                             | 1 puff*<br>BID                           | 1 inh.<br>QD                        | 1 inh.<br>BID                            | 2 puffs<br>BID                           | 1-2 inh.<br>BID               | 1-2 puffs<br>BID               |
| Medium Dose†                | 1 puff<br>BID                  | 1 inh.<br>QD                             | 2 puffs<br>BID                           | 2 inh.<br>QD<br>or<br>1 inh.<br>BID | 2 inh.<br>BID                            | 2 puffs<br>BID                           | 2 inh.<br>BID                 | 2 puffs<br>BID                 |
| High Dose†                  | 2 puffs<br>BID                 | 1 inh.<br>QD                             | 2 puffs<br>BID                           | 2 inh.<br>BID                       | 2-4 inh.<br>BID                          | 2-4 puffs<br>BID                         | 3-4 inh.<br>BID               | 3-4 puffs<br>BID               |



Age 12+

## ICS/LABA and ICS/LAMA/LABA Inhaler Estimated Dose Categories in Adults and Adolescents 12 Years and Older

Age 12+

| Brand                       | Breo Ellipta                                         | Dulera                                         | Advair Diskus<br>Generic: Wixela Inhub                 | Advair HFA                                        | AirDuo RespiClick                                 | Symbicort<br>Generic: Breyna                           | Breztri Aerosphere                                           | Trelegy Ellipta                                                |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Generic Delivery            | Fluticasone fur./<br>Vilanterol<br>DRY POWDER        | Mometasone/<br>Formoterol<br>METERED DOSE      | Fluticasone prop./<br>Salmeterol<br>DRY POWDER         | Fluticasone prop./<br>Salmeterol<br>METERED DOSE  | Fluticasone prop./<br>Salmeterol<br>DRY POWDER    | Budesonide/<br>Formoterol<br>METERED DOSE              | Budesonide/<br>Glycopyrrolate/<br>Formoterol<br>METERED DOSE | Fluticasone fur./<br>Umeclidinium/<br>Vilanterol<br>DRY POWDER |
| Indication                  | <span>A</span> Asthma: 5+ yrs<br><span>C</span> COPD | <span>A</span> Asthma: 5+ years                | <span>A</span> Asthma: 4+ years<br><span>C</span> COPD | <span>A</span> Asthma: 12+ years                  | <span>A</span> Asthma: 12+ years                  | <span>A</span> Asthma: 6+ years<br><span>C</span> COPD | <span>C</span> COPD                                          | <span>A</span> Asthma: 18+ yrs<br><span>C</span> COPD          |
| Available Product Strengths | 50/25 mcg/inh<br>100/25 mcg/inh<br>200/25 mcg/inh    | 50/5 mcg/inh<br>100/5 mcg/inh<br>200/5 mcg/inh | 100/50 mcg/inh<br>250/50 mcg/inh<br>500/50 mcg/inh     | 45/21 mcg/inh<br>115/21 mcg/inh<br>230/21 mcg/inh | 55/14 mcg/inh<br>113/14 mcg/inh<br>232/14 mcg/inh | 80/4.5 mcg/inh<br>160/4.5 mcg/inh                      | 160/9/4.8 mcg/inh                                            | 100/62.5/25 mcg/inh<br>200/62.5/25 mcg/inh                     |
| Low Dose†                   | 1 inh.<br>QD                                         | 1*-2 puffs<br>BID                              | 1 inh.<br>BID                                          | 2 puffs<br>BID                                    | 1 inh.<br>BID                                     | 2 puffs<br>BID                                         | 1 puff*<br>BID                                               | 1 inh.<br>QD                                                   |
| Medium Dose†                |                                                      | 1 puff*<br>BID                                 | 1 inh.<br>BID                                          | 2 puffs<br>BID                                    | 1 inh.<br>BID                                     | 2 puffs<br>BID                                         | 2 puffs<br>BID                                               |                                                                |
| High Dose†                  | 1 inh.<br>QD                                         | 2 puffs<br>BID                                 | 1 inh.<br>BID                                          | 2 puffs<br>BID                                    | 1 inh.<br>BID                                     |                                                        |                                                              | 1 inh.<br>QD                                                   |

Notes

The most important determinant of appropriate dosing is the clinician's judgment of the patient's response to therapy. The definitions of "low", "medium", and "high" dose ICS may vary by source. Where applicable, this resource reflects updated guidance from GINA 2023 which contains more conservative dose recommendations for these categories than previous GINA reports and NHLBI EPR-3 based upon recognition that generally the most benefit is obtained with the low dose; however, ICS response varies by the individual. **References:** NHLBI EPR 2007 and 2020 Focused Updates to the Asthma Management Guidelines, 2023 GINA Report: Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention, manufacturer product information.

\*Off-label dosing regimen

† View manufacturer product information regarding disease-specific dosing and titration

Disclaimer: Data on comparative potency of ICS-containing medications is limited. This document does not present equivalent dosing information, but presents estimated dose categorizations based upon recognized clinical guidance for the treatment of asthma and manufacturer product labeling.

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Published January 2024



# ICS-Containing Inhaler Estimated Dose Categorizations

## Adults and Adolescents 12 Years and Older



✨ Ages 5-11 Chart included with Pyrls Pro!

# Type 2 Diabetes Drug Class Comparison

|  T2DM Drug Class |  Mechanism                 |  Route |  A1C Lowering* |  Hypoglycemia Risk |  Weight Effect* |  Cost |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Biguanides</b> (metformin)                                                                     | Decreases hepatic production of glucose; increases insulin sensitivity                                      | Oral                                                                                      | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>                                                      | No                                                                                                    | <div><div></div></div><br>Potential for weight loss                                                | \$                                                                                       |
| <b>SGLT2 inhibitors</b>                                                                           | Increases urinary glucose excretion                                                                         | Oral                                                                                      | <div><div></div><div></div></div>                                                                 | No                                                                                                    | <div><div></div><div></div></div><br>Weight loss                                                   | \$\$\$                                                                                   |
| <b>GLP-1 receptor agonists</b>                                                                    | Increases glucose-dependent insulin release; decreases glucagon secretion; slows gastric emptying           | SQ/Oral                                                                                   | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div>**</div>                                         | No                                                                                                    | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><br>Weight loss**                                      | \$\$\$\$                                                                                 |
| <b>GLP-1/GIP receptor agonists</b><br>(e.g. tirzepatide)                                          | Increases glucose-dependent insulin release; decreases glucagon secretion; slows gastric emptying           | SQ                                                                                        | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>                                | No                                                                                                    | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><br>Weight loss                             | \$\$\$\$\$                                                                               |
| <b>DPP-4 inhibitors</b>                                                                           | Increases glucose-dependent insulin release; decreases glucagon secretion                                   | Oral                                                                                      | <div><div></div></div>                                                                            | No                                                                                                    | Neutral                                                                                            | \$\$\$                                                                                   |
| <b>Thiazolidinediones</b>                                                                         | Increases insulin sensitivity in muscle, fat and liver cells; increases glucose entry into cells            | Oral                                                                                      | <div><div></div><div></div></div>                                                                 | No                                                                                                    | <div><div></div></div><br>Weight gain                                                              | \$^                                                                                      |
| <b>Sulfonylureas</b>                                                                              | Stimulates insulin secretion from pancreatic beta cells                                                     | Oral                                                                                      | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>                                                      | Yes                                                                                                   | <div><div></div></div><br>Weight gain                                                              | \$                                                                                       |
| <b>Insulin Analogs</b>                                                                            | Stimulates peripheral glucose uptake by skeletal muscle and fat tissue; inhibits hepatic glucose production | SQ                                                                                        | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><br>Titrate to response         | Yes                                                                                                   | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><br>Weight gain                                        | \$\$\$                                                                                   |
| <b>Human Insulin</b>                                                                              |                                                                                                             | SQ/Inhaled                                                                                |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                    | \$                                                                                       |



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SQ = subcutaneous

\* The extent of A1C lowering and weight change is highly variable based upon factors including but not limited to baseline A1C, baseline weight, patient-specific characteristics, lifestyle modifications, and whether monotherapy or a multi-drug regimen is being utilized.

\*\* The GLP-1 receptor agonists dulaglutide and subcutaneous semaglutide have notably greater A1C-lowering efficacy and weight loss effects than other GLP-1 receptor agonists.

^ Pioglitazone is generic and has low cost; however, rosiglitazone (Avandia®), which is currently unavailable in the U.S., is not available as a generic.

**References:** (1) American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee. American Diabetes Association. Standards of Care in Diabetes - 2024. Diabetes Care 1 January 2024; 47 (Suppl. 1): S1-S321. (2) Individual manufacturer product labels.

Healthy lifestyle behaviors, self-management education/support and social determinants of health should be considered in all patients.

First-line pharmacotherapy (metformin or other agents) should be selected based upon patient-specific factors (e.g., glycemic goals, cardiorenal risk, comorbidities, cost and access).

Consider **combination pharmacotherapy** at initiation if A1C ≥1.5% above target goal.

Consider **early insulin initiation** with extreme hyperglycemia:

- BG ≥300 mg/dL
- A1C >10%
- Signs of catabolism

Page 2

Reassess treatment plan every **3-6 months** and modify if appropriate

# Type 2 Diabetes Pharmacotherapy

## Treatment Algorithm for Glycemic Control (2024 Update)

**References:** American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee. American Diabetes Association. Standards of Care in Diabetes - 2024. Diabetes Care 1 January 2024; 47 (Suppl. 1): S1–S321. Individual FDA Prescribing Information labels.

Page 1

| Glycemic Treatment Goals | POPULATION         | A1C (%) | PREPRANDIAL    | 2-HR PPG   |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------|----------------|------------|
|                          | Most patients*     | <7.0    | 80 - 130 mg/dL | <180 mg/dL |
|                          | Certain patients** | <8.0    | --             | --         |

\*More strict goals may be reasonable for certain patients, if achievable without significant hypoglycemia risk  
\*\*Risk of severe hypoglycemia, limited life expectancy, long duration of DM, prefer a less stringent A1C goal, etc.

Established/High-Risk of ASCVD, Heart Failure, or Chronic Kidney Disease? No

Recommended independent of baseline A1C, target A1C goal, or use of metformin

ASCVD  
(established or high risk\*)

GLP-1 RA or SGLT2i with proven CVD benefit

If A1C above target

- On GLP-1 RA? Consider use of SGLT2i with CVD benefit (and vice versa)  
- Consider low dose TZD (avoid in patients with HF)

Heart Failure  
(preserved or reduced EF)

SGLT2i<sup>†</sup> with HF benefit

- Avoid TZDs
- Avoid saxagliptin

If A1C above target

Chronic Kidney Disease  
(eGFR < 60 mL/min and/or UACR ≥ 30 mg/g)

On maximally tolerated ACEi/ARB

SGLT2i with primary evidence for reducing CKD progression

- May be initiated with an eGFR as low as 20 mL/min  
- Strongest evidence of benefit when UACR ≥ 200 mg/g  
- If SGLT2i therapy is contraindicated or not tolerated, use of a GLP-1 RA with CVD benefit is recommended

If A1C above target

On SGLT2i? Consider use of GLP-1 RA (and vice versa)

\* High-risk for ASCVD: Typically age ≥ 55 years plus two or more risk factors (e.g., hypertension, obesity, smoking, dyslipidemia, albuminuria)

† SGLT2i or SGLT1/2i with proven benefit in patients with heart failure (please note: sotagliflozin is not FDA-approved for glycemic control)

| CLASS                     | ASCVD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | HEART FAILURE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | RENAL                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SGLT2is                   | <b>FDA approved CVD benefit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• canagliflozin</li><li>• empagliflozin</li></ul> <b>Neutral:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• bexagliflozin*</li><li>• dapagliflozin</li><li>• ertugliflozin</li></ul>                            | <b>FDA approved HF benefit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• dapagliflozin</li><li>• empagliflozin</li></ul> <b>Evidence for benefit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• canagliflozin</li><li>• ertugliflozin</li></ul> | <b>FDA approved renal benefit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• canagliflozin (DKD)</li><li>• dapagliflozin (CKD)</li><li>• empagliflozin (CKD)</li></ul> <b>Neutral:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• bexagliflozin*</li><li>• ertugliflozin</li></ul> |
| GLP-1 RAs & GLP-1/GIP RAs | <b>FDA approved CVD benefit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• dulaglutide</li><li>• liraglutide</li><li>• semaglutide (SUBQ)</li></ul> <b>Neutral:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• exenatide ER</li><li>• lixisenatide</li><li>• semaglutide (oral)</li></ul> | Neutral                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Evidence for renal benefit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• dulaglutide</li><li>• liraglutide</li><li>• semaglutide (SUBQ)</li></ul>                                                                                                                           |

Note: Sotagliflozin (SGLT1/2 inhibitor) is also a recommended option to provide heart failure benefit in patients with T2DM and heart failure. It is not approved for glycemic control.

\*FDA-approved in 2023; limited data suggests neutral cardiorenal effect.

NOTE: Labeled indications and evidence for individual agents are subject to frequent change and geographic variability. Last updated 9/2023.

Select therapies with **adequate efficacy** to achieve and maintain **treatment goals**.

In patients with concurrent **glycemic management** and **weight management goals**, consider therapies with **high to very high** glucose-lowering and weight-loss efficacy.

Glucose-Lowering Efficacy

**Very High:**  
Dulaglutide (high-dose)  
Semaglutide  
Tirzepatide  
Insulin  
Combination therapy

**High:**  
GLP-1 RA (not listed above)  
Metformin  
SGLT2i  
Sulfonylurea  
TZD

**Intermediate:**  
DPP-4i

If A1C above target

Add additional agents based on patient-specific factors including:  
glycemic goals, cardiorenal risk, comorbidities, cost and access  
Do not combine DPP-4i, GLP-1 RA and/or tirzepatide (GLP-1/GIP RA)

Weight-Loss Efficacy

**Very High:**  
Semaglutide  
Tirzepatide

**High:**  
Dulaglutide  
Liraglutide

**Intermediate:**  
GLP-1 RA (not listed above)  
SGLT2i

**Intermediate:**  
DPP-4i  
Metformin

Cost and Access

Consider oral options available in generic form or at a lower cost:  
- SU or TZD\*

\*Only pioglitazone is available in a generic formulation

Consider insulins that are available at lower cost:  
- NPH or Regular

Please note: Insulin analogs (or inhaled insulin) are preferred to human insulins due to the lower hypoglycemia risk

Patient assistance programs may be available for certain brand name medications

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# Type 2 Diabetes Pharmacotherapy

## Treatment Algorithm for Glycemic Control (2024 Update)



Comprehensive lifestyle changes and non-insulin agents should generally be considered prior to insulin therapy

Consider **early insulin initiation** with extreme hyperglycemia: BG  $\geq 300$  mg/dL, or A1C  $>10\%$  or signs of catabolism present

→ See Page 1 regarding non-insulin initial pharmacotherapy use and selection

**References:** American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee. American Diabetes Association. Standards of Care in Diabetes - 2024. Diabetes Care 1 January 2024; 47 (Suppl. 1): S1-S321. Individual FDA Prescribing Information labels.



Reassess treatment plan every **3-6 months** and modify if appropriate



Injectable therapy needed to lower A1C?



Consider **GLP-1 RA** or **GLP-1/GIP RA** in most patients prior to insulin

Titrate to **maintenance dose**

Already on **GLP-1 RA** or **GLP-1/GIP RA**?  
GLP-1 RA or GLP-1/GIP RA **not appropriate**?  
Or is **insulin preferred**?



### Assess basal insulin dose adequacy & evaluate for overbasalization

Evaluate for clinical signs of overbasalization or need for adjunctive therapy:

- Basal dose  $> \sim 0.5$  units/kg/day
- Elevated bedtime-morning/post-preprandial differential
- Hypoglycemia (aware/unaware)
- High glycemic variability



Add **basal insulin analog** or **bedtime NPH** based upon patient-specific factors (e.g., cost)

**START:** 10 units/day or 0.1-0.2 units/kg/day

**TITRATE** to fasting plasma glucose (FPG) target:

- Follow an evidence-based titration algorithm, e.g.,  $\uparrow$  2 units every 3 days until FPG target
- Hypoglycemia is never acceptable; titrate at a rate to minimize hypoglycemia risk
- If hypoglycemia occurs for no clear reason,  $\downarrow$  dose 10-20%



If A1C is above target



### On bedtime NPH? Consider conversion to BID NPH

One possible approach:

#### START:

- Total dose = 80% of current
- 2/3 given in the morning
- 1/3 given at bedtime

#### TITRATION:

Based on individual's needs



### Add prandial insulin

Usually start with one dose with the largest meal or meal with greatest PPG excursion; prandial insulin can be dosed individually or mixed with NPH as appropriate

#### START:

- 4 units/day or 10% of basal insulin dose
- If A1C  $<8\%$ , consider  $\downarrow$  basal dose by 4 units/day or by 10% of basal dose

#### TITRATION:

- $\uparrow$  dose 1-2 units or 10-15% twice weekly
- If hypoglycemia occurs for no clear reason,  $\downarrow$  dose by 10-20%



If A1C is above target



If A1C is above target



### Consider BID premix insulin

#### START:

- Usually unit per unit at the same total insulin dose, but may require adjustment for the individual's needs

#### TITRATION:

Based on individual's needs



### Stepwise additional prandial injections

(i.e. 1 then 2 then 3 injections daily)



### Full basal-bolus regimen

(i.e. prandial insulin w/ meals and basal insulin)

### Consider self-mixed/split insulin regimen

Can adjust NPH and short/rapid-acting insulins separately

#### START:

- Total NPH dose = 80% of current NPH
- 2/3 given before breakfast
- 1/3 given before dinner
- Add 4 units of short/rapid insulin to each injection or 10% of reduced NPH dose

#### TITRATION:

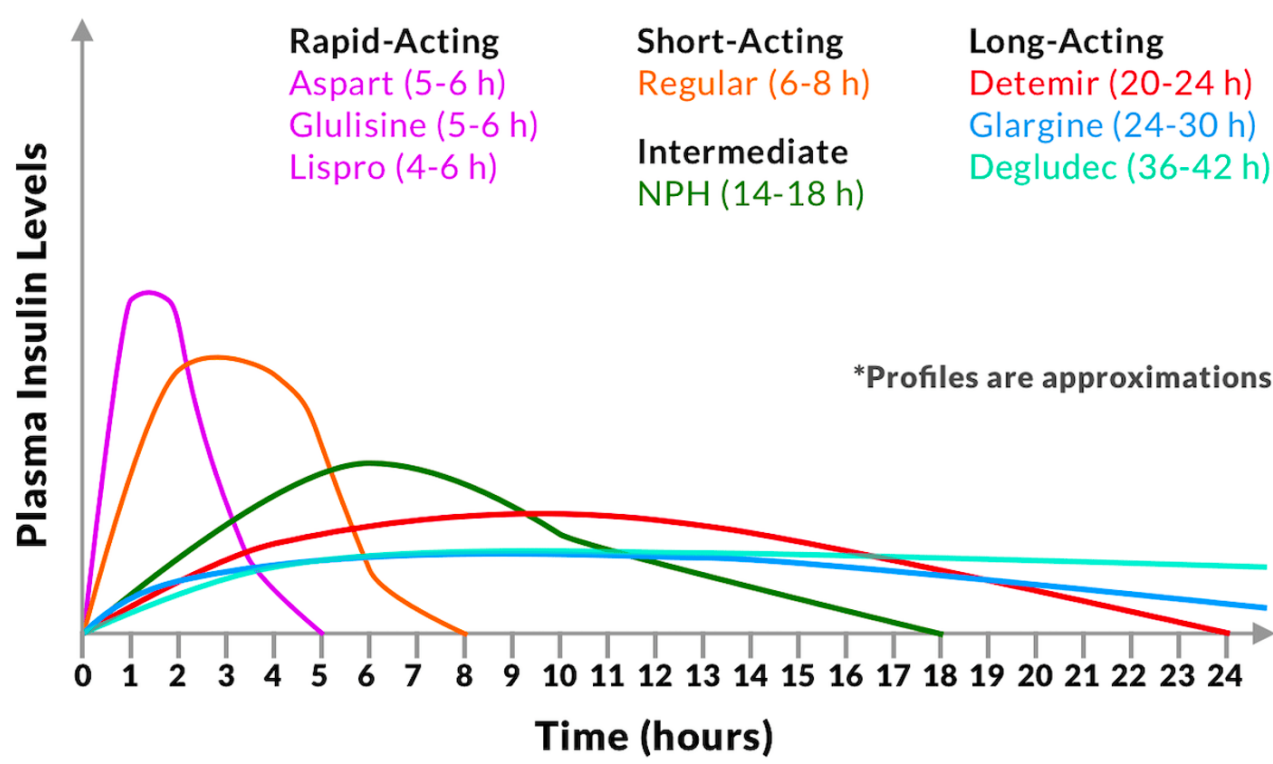
- Titrate components of the regimen based on the individual's needs



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# Insulin Classes and Action Profiles



Adapted and referenced from: Hirsch IB. Insulin analogues. N Engl J Med. 2005 Jan 13;352(2):174-83. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/15647580> and individual product labels.

| BRAND             | GENERIC                             | CLASS               | DURATION                | TYPE   |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Admelog           | Insulin lispro (conventional)       | Rapid-acting        | 4-6 hours               | Analog |
| Afrezza           | Inhaled insulin                     | Rapid-acting        | 2.5-3 hours             | Human  |
| Apidra            | Insulin glulisine                   | Rapid-acting        | 5-6 hours               | Analog |
| Basaglar          | Insulin glargine                    | Long-acting         | 24-30 hours             | Analog |
| Fiasp             | Insulin aspart (faster-acting)      | Rapid-acting        | 5-6 hours               | Analog |
| HumaLog           | Insulin lispro (conventional)       | Rapid-acting        | 4-6 hours               | Analog |
| Humulin N         | NPH                                 | Intermediate-acting | 14-18 hours             | Human  |
| Humulin R (U-100) | Regular insulin                     | Short-acting        | 6-8 hours               | Human  |
| Humulin R (U-500) | Regular insulin                     | Intermediate-acting | ~21 hours (13-24 hours) | Human  |
| Lantus            | Insulin glargine                    | Long-acting         | 24-30 hours             | Analog |
| Levemir           | Insulin detemir                     | Long-acting         | 20-24 hours             | Analog |
| Lyumjev           | Insulin lispro-aabc (faster-acting) | Rapid-acting        | 4-6 hours               | Analog |
| NovoLog           | Insulin aspart (conventional)       | Rapid-acting        | 5-6 hours               | Analog |
| Novolin N         | NPH                                 | Intermediate-acting | 14-18 hours             | Human  |
| Novolin R         | Regular insulin                     | Short-acting        | 6-8 hours               | Human  |
| Rezvoglar         | Insulin glargine-aglr               | Long-acting         | 24-30 hours             | Analog |
| Semglee           | Insulin glargine-yfgn               | Long-acting         | 24-30 hours             | Analog |
| Toujeo            | Insulin glargine                    | Long-acting         | 24-30 hours             | Analog |
| Tresiba           | Insulin degludec                    | Long-acting         | 36-42 hours             | Analog |

## Rapid-Acting



100 U/mL vial (3 or 10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Admelog [SoloStar, Vial]**  
Insulin lispro (analog, conventional)  
Duration: 4-6 hours (or 3-5 hours)



4 U/INH (single-dose cartridges)  
8 U/INH  
12 U/INH

**Afrezza**  
Inhaled powdered Insulin (human, ultra-rapid)  
Duration: 2.5-3 hours



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Apidra [SoloStar, Vial]**  
Insulin glulisine (analog)  
Duration: 5-6 hour (or 3-5 hours)



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box  
100 U/mL cart. (3 or 1.6 mL)

**Fiasp [FlexTouch, Vial, PenFill, PumpCart]**  
Insulin aspart (analog, ultra-rapid)  
Duration: 4-6 hours (or 3-5 hours)



100 U/mL vial (3 or 10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box  
200 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 2 pens/box

**HumaLog [KwikPen, Jr, Tempo Pen, Vial]**  
Insulin lispro (analog, conventional)  
Duration: 4-6 hours



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box  
200 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 2 pens/box

**Lyumjev [KwikPen, Jr, Tempo Pen, Vial]**  
Insulin lispro-aabc (analog, ultra-rapid)  
Duration: 4-6 hours



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box  
100 U/mL cart. (3 mL)

**NovoLog [FlexPen, Vial, PenFill]**  
Insulin aspart (analog, conventional)  
Duration: 4-6 hours

## Intermediate-Acting



100 U/mL vial (3 or 10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Humulin N (U-100) [KwikPen, Vial]**  
Insulin isophane or NPH (human)  
Duration: 14-18 hours



500 U/mL vial (20 mL)  
500 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 2 pens/box

**Humulin R (U-500) [KwikPen, Vial]**  
Regular insulin (human)  
Duration: ~21 hours (13-24 h).



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Novolin N (U-100) [FlexPen, Vial]**  
Insulin isophane or NPH (human)  
Duration: 14-18 hours

## Intermediate + Rapid-Acting



50/50 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Humalog Mix 50/50 [KwikPen]**  
Insulin lispro protamine (50%)/lispro (50%)  
Duration: Up to 24 hours (analog)



75/25 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
75/25 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Humalog Mix 75/25 [KwikPen, Vial]**  
Insulin lispro protamine (75%)/lispro (25%)  
Duration: 16-20 hours (analog)



70/30 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
70/30 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Novolog Mix 70/30 [FlexPen, Vial]**  
Insulin aspart protamine (70%)/aspart (30%)  
Duration: Up to 24 hours (analog)

## Long-Acting



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Levemir\* [FlexPen, Vial]**  
Insulin detemir (analog)  
Duration: 20-24 hours



100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Basaglar [KwikPen, Tempo Pen]**  
Insulin glargine (analog)  
Duration: 24-30 hours



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Lantus [SoloStar, Vial]**  
Insulin glargine (analog)  
Duration: 24-30 hours



100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Rezvoglar [KwikPen]**  
Insulin glargine-aglr (analog, biosimilar^)  
Duration: Up to 24 hours



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Semglee [Pen, Vial]**  
Insulin glargine-yfgn (analog, biosimilar^)  
Duration: 24-30 hours



300 U/mL pen (1.5 mL) - 3 pens/box  
300 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 2 pens/box

**Toujeo [SoloStar, Max]**  
Insulin glargine (analog)  
Duration: Up to 36 hours



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box  
200 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 3 pens/box

**Tresiba [FlexTouch, Vial]**  
Insulin degludec (analog, ultra-long)  
Duration: 36-42 hours

## Short-Acting



100 U/mL vial (3 or 10 mL)

**Humulin R (U-100) [Vial]**  
Regular insulin (human)  
Duration: 6-8 hours



100 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
100 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Novolin R [FlexPen, Vial]**  
Regular insulin (human)  
Duration: 6-8 hours



1 U/mL single-dose container (100 mL)

**Myxredlin**  
Regular insulin (human) IV solution

## Intermediate + Short-Acting



70/30 U/mL vial (3 or 10 mL)  
70/30 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Humulin 70/30 [KwikPen, Vial]**  
Insulin isophane (70%)/regular insulin (30%)  
Duration: Up to 24 hours (analog/human)



70/30 U/mL vial (10 mL)  
70/30 U/mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Novolin 70/30 [FlexPen, Vial]**  
Insulin isophane (70%)/regular insulin (30%)  
Duration: Up to 24 hours (analog/human)

## Long-Acting + GLP-1 RA (glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor agonist)



100 U/3.6 mg per mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Xultophy [Pen]**  
Insulin degludec + liraglutide (analog)  
Duration: Up to 42 hours (degludec)



100 U/33 mcg per mL pen (3 mL) - 5 pens/box

**Soliqua [SoloStar]**  
Insulin glargine + lixisenatide (analog)  
Duration: 24-30 hours (glargine)

## Insulin Biosimilars

At the time of writing (April 2023), there are **two** insulin biosimilars available in the United States:

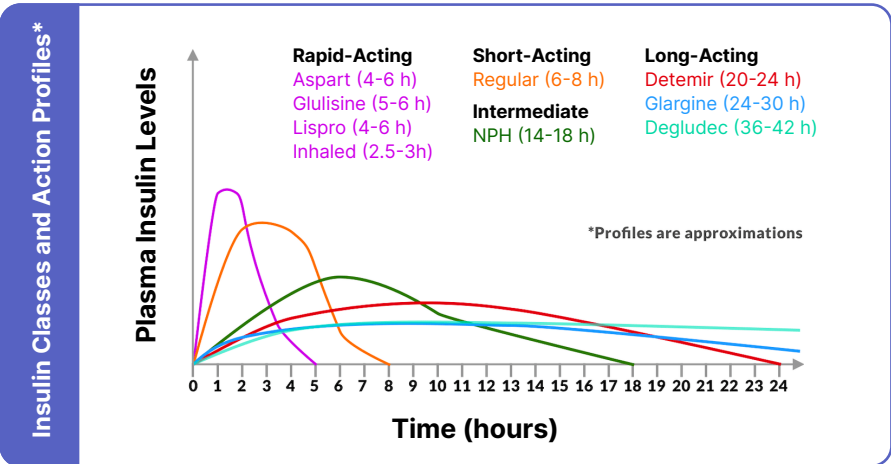
1. **Rezvoglar**® (insulin glargine-aglr)
2. **Semglee**® (insulin glargine-yfgn)

Both are **interchangeable** biosimilars of **Lantus**®. It should be noted that these two products are **not biosimilars of Basaglar** (another distinct insulin glargine reference product), nor are they interchangeable with each other. Refer to the **FDA's Purple Book** for the most up-to-date list of approved biosimilars.

**\*Note:** Levemir FlexPen will be **discontinued** from the U.S. market on **April 1, 2024**. Supply disruption of Levemir FlexPen is expected to begin in **mid-January of 2024**. The entire Levemir brand, including the vial, will be **discontinued** on **December 31, 2024**.

All products are good until their expiration date when kept **unopened and refrigerated** (36°F-46°F [2°C-8°C]).

| BRAND                         | GENERIC                         | DAYS GOOD AT ROOM TEMP<br>(≤ 86° F [30°C]) WHEN IN-USE | STORAGE WHEN OPENED/IN-USE                   |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Admelog SoloStar pen          | Insulin lispro                  | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Admelog vial                  | Insulin lispro                  | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerate (≤ 86° F [30°C] )        |
| Apidra SoloStar pen           | Insulin glulisine               | 28 days (≤ 77° F [25°C] )                              | <b>≤ 77°F (25°C), but do not refrigerate</b> |
| Apidra vial                   | Insulin glulisine               | 28 days (≤ 77° F [25°C] )                              | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 77°F [25°C])         |
| Basaglar KwikPen/Tempo Pen    | Insuline glargine               | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Fiasp FlexTouch pen           | Insulin aspart                  | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Fiasp PenFill cartridge       | Insulin aspart                  | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Fiasp vial                    | Insulin aspart                  | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Humalog KwikPen and cartridge | Insulin lispro                  | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Humalog vial                  | Insulin lispro                  | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Humalog Junior KwikPen        | Insulin lispro                  | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Humalog TempoPen              | Insulin lispro                  | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Humalog Mix 50/50 KwikPen     | Insulin lispro protamine/lispro | <b>10 days</b>                                         | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Humalog Mix 75/25 KwikPen     | Insulin lispro protamine/lispro | <b>10 days</b>                                         | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Humalog Mix 75/25 vial        | Insulin lispro protamine/lispro | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Humulin N KwikPen             | NPH                             | <b>14 days</b>                                         | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Humulin N vial                | NPH                             | <b>31 days</b>                                         | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Humulin R vial                | Insulin human (regular)         | <b>31 days</b>                                         | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Humulin R U-500 KwikPen       | Insulin human (regular)         | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Humulin R U-500 vial          | Insulin human (regular)         | <b>40 days</b>                                         | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Humulin 70/30 KwikPen         | NPH/regular                     | <b>10 days</b>                                         | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Humulin 70/30 vial            | NPH/regular                     | <b>31 days</b>                                         | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Lantus SoloStar pen           | Insulin glargine                | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Lantus vial                   | Insulin glargine                | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Levemir FlexPen               | Insulin detemir                 | <b>42 days</b>                                         | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Levemir vial                  | Insulin detemir                 | <b>42 days</b>                                         | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Lyumjev pen                   | Insulin lispro-aabc             | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Lyumjev vial                  | Insulin lispro-aabc             | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Novolin N FlexPen             | NPH                             | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Novolin N vial                | NPH                             | <b>42 days (≤ 77° F [25°C])</b>                        | <b>≤ 77°F (25°C), but do not refrigerate</b> |
| Novolin R FlexPen             | Regular                         | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Novolin R vial                | Regular                         | <b>42 days (≤ 77° F [25°C])</b>                        | <b>≤ 77°F (25°C), but do not refrigerate</b> |
| Novolin 70/30 FlexPen         | NPH/Regular                     | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Novolin 70/30 vial            | NPH/Regular                     | <b>42 days (≤ 77° F [25°C])</b>                        | <b>≤ 77°F (25°C), but do not refrigerate</b> |
| NovoLog FlexTouch/FlexPen     | Insulin aspart                  | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| NovoLog vial                  | Insulin aspart                  | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| NovoLog PenFill Cartridge     | Insulin aspart                  | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| NovoLog Mix 70/30 FlexPen     | Insulin aspart                  | <b>14 days</b>                                         | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| NovoLog Mix 70/30 Vial        | Insulin aspart                  | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Rezvoglar KwikPen             | Insulin glargine-aglr           | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Semglee pen                   | Insulin glargine-yfgn           | 28 days                                                | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Semglee vial                  | Insulin glargine-yfgn           | 28 days                                                | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Soliqua 100/33                | Insulin glargine + lixisenatide | 28 days (≤ 77° F [25°C])                               | <b>≤ 77°F (25°C), but do not refrigerate</b> |
| Toujeo (Max) SoloStar pen     | Insulin glargine                | <b>56 days</b>                                         | <b>Do not refrigerate</b>                    |
| Tresiba FlexTouch pen         | Insulin degludec                | <b>56 days</b>                                         | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Tresiba vial                  | Insulin degludec                | <b>56 days</b>                                         | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |
| Xultophy 100/3.6              | Insulin degludec + liraglutide  | <b>21 days</b>                                         | Room or Refrigerated (≤ 86°F [30°C])         |



| Priming Insulin Pens                                                                 |                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Prime insulin pens prior to each injection with <b>2 units</b> except the following: |                       |
| Humulin® R U-500 Kwikpen                                                             | 5 units               |
| Toujeo® SoloStar                                                                     | 3 units               |
| Toujeo® Max SoloStar                                                                 | 4 units               |
| Xultophy® Pen                                                                        | Select priming symbol |

Reference: [1] Hirsch IB. Insulin analogues. N Engl Med. 2005 Jan 13;352(2): 174-83. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/15647580>. [2] Wong EY, Kroon L. Ultra-Rapid-Acting Insulins: How Fast Is Really Needed?. Clin Diabetes. 2021;39(4):415-423. doi:10.2337/cd20-0119. [3] Individual manufacturer product labels.



# Injection Areas

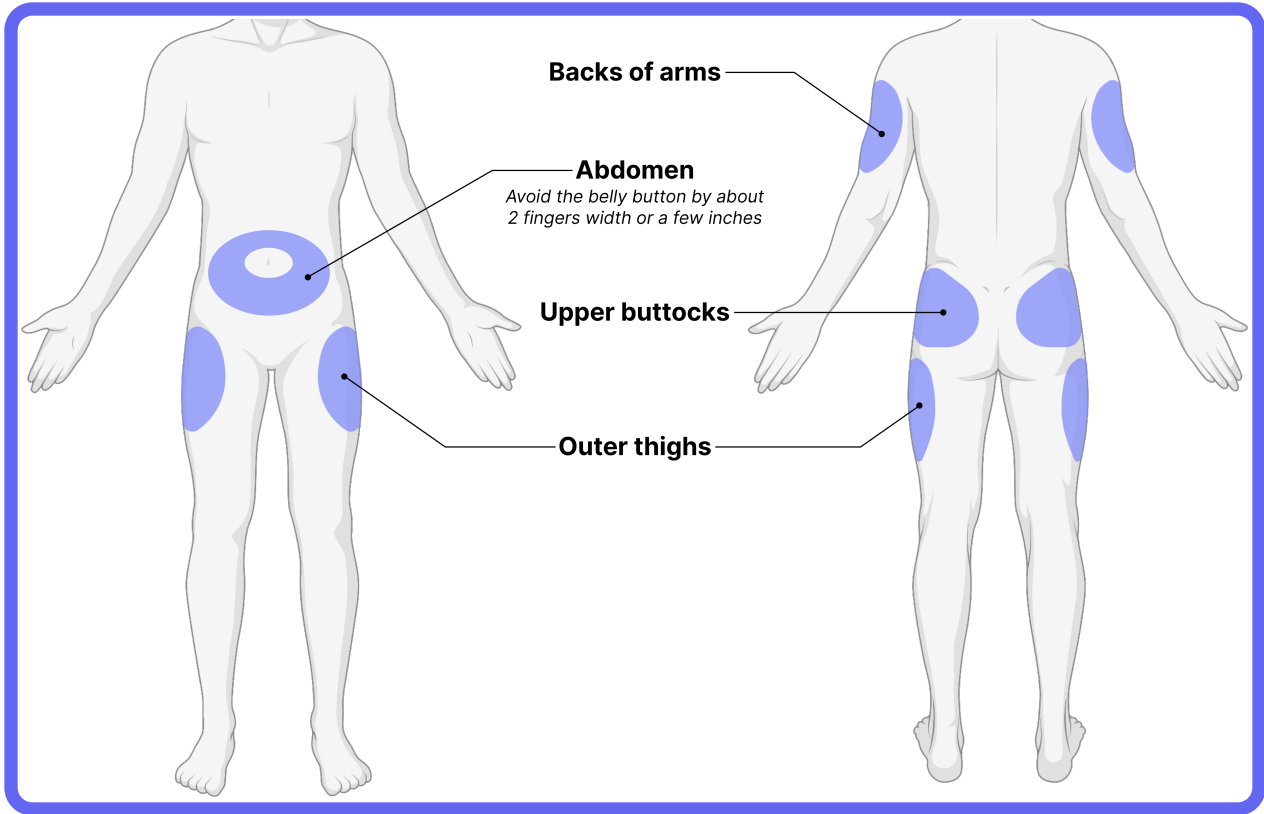
## Insulin Injection Areas

Insulin is **best absorbed** when injected into the **abdomen** (staying away from the belly button by about 2 fingers width or a few inches); however, the outer thighs, upper buttocks and backs of arms are also acceptable injection areas.

Using the **same injection area** (e.g., abdomen) for each administration can help ensure the body receives **consistent levels** of insulin.

**Rotate** injection sites (in the same general body region) to prevent **skin damage**.

If using a **GLP-1 RA** or **GLP-1/GIP RA** with insulin, administer at **separate injection sites** and do **not** mix the medications. The injection sites may be in the same body region but should not be adjacent to each other.



## GLP-1 RA and GLP-1/GIP RA Injection Areas

GLP-1 RAs and GLP-1/GIP RAs (e.g., tirzepatide) can be injected into the **abdomen** (staying away from the belly button by about 2 fingers width or a few inches), outer thighs and backs of arms.

**Rotate** injection sites (in the same general body region) to prevent **skin damage**.

If using a GLP-1 RA or GLP-1/GIP RA with **insulin**, administer at **separate injection sites** and do **not** mix the medications. The injection sites may be in the same body region but should **not** be adjacent to each other.



Secondary ASCVD Prevention in Adults with Clinical ASCVD

Clinical ASCVD includes the following: history of ACS or MI, stable/unstable angina, ischemic stroke/transient ischemic attack, coronary/arterial revascularization or peripheral artery disease (presumed to be of atherosclerotic origin)

**Use maximally tolerated statin and consider adding nonstatin therapies to achieve specific LDL targets based upon subgroup**

**Criteria for Defining Very High Risk**

**\*Very high risk ASCVD is defined as a history of multiple major ASCVD events or one major ASCVD event and multiple high-risk conditions**

**Major ASCVD Events**

- Any recent ACS (in last 12 months)
- History of MI (other than recent ACS)
- History of ischemic stroke
- Symptomatic PAD

**High-Risk Conditions**

- Age ≥65 years
- Heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia
- History of prior CABG surgery or PCI outside of the major ASCVD event(s)
- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Chronic kidney disease
- History of congestive heart failure
- Current smoker
- Persistently elevated LDL-C (≥100 mg/dL) despite max-tolerated statin and ezetimibe

**ASCVD Not at Very High Risk\***

Target **≥50%** LDL reduction and LDL **<70 mg/dL**

If not reached on max-tolerated statin ↓

Consider adding **ezetimibe**

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider adding **PCSK9 mAb** § (in addition to or in place of ezetimibe)

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider adding **bempedoic acid**

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Refer to lipid specialist and RD/RDN

**Very High Risk ASCVD\***

Target **≥50%** LDL reduction and LDL **<55 mg/dL**

If not reached on max-tolerated statin ↓

Consider adding **ezetimibe** and/or **PCSK9 mAb** §

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider adding **second nonstatin** (e.g., ezetimibe + PCSK9 mAb)

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider adding **bempedoic acid**

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Refer to lipid specialist and RD/RDN

**Baseline LDL ≥190 mg/dL without clinical/genetic FH diagnosis**

Target **≥50%** LDL reduction and LDL **<70 mg/dL**

If not reached on max-tolerated statin ↓

Consider lipid specialist and RD/RDN referral

Consider adding **ezetimibe** and/or **PCSK9 mAb** §

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider adding **bempedoic acid**

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Refer to lipid specialist and RD/RDN

Under care of lipid specialist, if LDL persistently >200 mg/dL consider LDL apheresis

**Baseline LDL ≥190 mg/dL with clinical/genetic FH diagnosis**

Target **≥50%** LDL reduction and LDL **<55 mg/dL**

If not reached on max-tolerated statin ↓

Consider lipid specialist and RD/RDN referral

Consider adding **ezetimibe** and/or **PCSK9 mAb** §

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider adding **bempedoic acid**

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Refer to lipid specialist and RD/RDN

Under care of lipid specialist, if inadequate response to max-tolerated statin with or without ezetimibe/PCSK9 inhibitors:

- Consider LDL apheresis in patients with HeFH or HoFH
- Consider evinacumab or lomitapide in patients with HoFH

§ **Ezetimibe** may be preferred as the initial nonstatin agent in those requiring <25% additional LDL reduction, while a **PCSK9 mAb** may be preferred in those requiring >25% additional LDL reduction. The simultaneous addition of two agents may be considered in patients requiring greater LDL reduction than likely achievable with one agent alone.

§ Consider replacing PCSK9 mAb with **inlisiran** in those with PCSK9 mAb adherence or tolerability issues. PCSK9 mAbs (alirocumab, evolocumab) are currently the preferred PCSK9 inhibitors over inlisiran due to available safety and CV outcomes data. If inlisiran is used, it should replace the PCSK9 mAb as there is no evidence or mechanistic plausibility for use together. Consider referral to lipid specialist for use.



Primary ASCVD Prevention

Assess and discuss ASCVD risk in each subgroup, promote healthy lifestyle to reduce ASCVD risk

**LDL ≥190 mg/dL**

**Use max-tolerated statin**

Target **≥50%** LDL reduction and LDL **<100 mg/dL**

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider lipid specialist & RD/RDN referral

Consider adding **ezetimibe** and/or **PCSK9 mAb** §

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider adding **second nonstatin** (e.g., ezetimibe + PCSK9 mAb)

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Consider adding **bempedoic acid**

If LDL targets not reached ↓

Refer to lipid specialist and RD/RDN

Under care of lipid specialist, if HoFH and inadequate response to max-tolerated statin with or without ezetimibe/PCSK9 inhibitors:

- Consider LDL apheresis
- Consider evinacumab or lomitapide

**Adults with diabetes (LDL <190 mg/dL)**

**Age 20-39 years**  
Diabetes-specific risk enhancers? Consider statin

**Age 40-75 years**  
10-year ASCVD risk ≥7.5%, diabetes-specific risk enhancers\*, or subclinical atherosclerosis?  
No: Use moderate-intensity statin  
Yes: Use high-intensity statin  
Target 30-49% LDL reduction and LDL <100 mg/dL (or non-HDL <130 mg/dL)  
If LDL targets not reached ↓  
Increase to high-intensity statin  
If LDL targets not reached ↓  
Consider adding **ezetimibe**  
May consider bile acid sequestrant if fasting TG <300 mg/dL or if ezetimibe has inadequate response or is not tolerated

**Age >75 years**  
Discuss the risk-benefit of statin prior to initiation

**Adults without diabetes (LDL 70-189 mg/dL)**

**Age 20-39 years**  
Generally focus on implementing healthy lifestyle changes to reduce lifetime ASCVD risk

**Age 40-75 years**  
Assess 10-year ASCVD risk  
<5% Low-Risk: Promote healthy lifestyle to reduce ASCVD risk  
5% to <7.5% Borderline-Risk: Consider risk-enhancing factors\* and discuss use of moderate-intensity statin  
≥7.5% to <20% Intermediate-Risk: Consider moderate-intensity statin  
≥20% High-Risk: Use high-intensity statin  
Target 30-49% LDL reduction and LDL <100 mg/dL  
If LDL targets not reached ↓  
Increase to high-intensity statin  
If LDL targets not reached ↓  
Consider adding **ezetimibe**

**Age >75 years:**  
If LDL 70-189 mg/dL, consider initiation of a moderate-intensity statin upon clinician-patient discussion

\* **Ezetimibe** may be preferred as the initial nonstatin agent in those requiring <25% additional LDL reduction, while a **PCSK9 mAb** may be preferred in those requiring >25% additional LDL reduction. The simultaneous addition of two agents may be considered in patients requiring greater LDL reduction than likely achievable with one agent alone.

§ Consider replacing PCSK9 mAb with **inlisiran** in those with PCSK9 mAb adherence or tolerability issues. PCSK9 mAbs (alirocumab, evolocumab) are currently the preferred PCSK9 inhibitors over inlisiran due to available safety and CV outcomes data. If inlisiran is used, it should replace the PCSK9 mAb as there is no evidence or mechanistic plausibility for use together. Consider referral to lipid specialist for use.

**\*Diabetes-Specific Risk Enhancers**

- Long duration of diabetes (≥10 years for type 2, ≥20 years for type 1)
- UACR ≥30
- eGFR <60 mL/min
- Retinopathy
- Neuropathy
- ABI <0.9

**^Risk-Enhancing Factors**

**Medical History/Demographics**

- Family history of premature ASCVD (males <55 years; females <65 years)
- Primary hypercholesterolemia (LDL 160-189 mg/dL)
- Chronic kidney disease (with or without albuminuria)
- Metabolic syndrome
- History of premature menopause (before age 40) or preeclampsia
- Chronic inflammatory disorders (e.g., psoriasis, RA, HIV/AIDS)
- High-risk race/ethnicities (e.g., South Asian ancestry)

**Biomarkers**

- Persistently elevated, primary hypertriglyceridemia (≥175 mg/dL)
- CRP ≥2.0 mg/dL
- Lp(a) level ≥50 mg/dL (or >125 nmol/L)
- apoB ≥130 mg/dL
- Ankle-brachial index (ABI) <0.9

**\*ASCVD Risk Score**



ACS: acute coronary syndrome  
apoB: apolipoprotein B  
ASCVD: atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease  
AU: Agatston unit  
BAS: bile acid sequestrant  
CAC: coronary artery calcium  
CRP: C-reactive protein

FH: familial hypercholesterolemia  
HDL: high-density lipoprotein cholesterol  
HeFH: heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia  
HoFH: homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia  
LDL: low-density lipoprotein cholesterol  
Lp(a): lipoprotein (a)  
MI: myocardial infarction

PAD: peripheral artery disease  
PCSK9 mAb: proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 monoclonal antibody  
RD/RDN: registered dietitian/dietitian nutritionist  
UACR: urine albumin creatinine ratio

**References:** Grundy SM, Stone NJ, Bailey AL, et al. 2018 AHA/ACC/AACVPR/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/ADA/AGS/APHA/ASPC/NLA/PCNA Guideline on the Management of Blood Cholesterol: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines. [2] Writing Committee, Lloyd-Jones DM, Morris PB, et al. 2022 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway on the Role of Nonstatin Therapies for LDL-Cholesterol Lowering in the Management of Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease Risk: A Report of the American College of Cardiology Solution Set Oversight Committee. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2022;80(14):1366-1418. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2022.07.006

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# Statins Comparison

|  <b>Statin Medication</b> | <b>Low Intensity</b><br><30% LDL ↓ | <b>Moderate Intensity</b><br>30-49% LDL ↓ | <b>High Intensity</b><br>≥50% LDL ↓ |  <b>Dose Timing</b> |  <b>Take with Food?</b> |  <b>Grapefruit</b> |  <b>Myopathy Risk</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Atorvastatin</b><br>Lipitor®                                                                            |                                    | 10-20 mg                                  | 40-80 mg                            | Any                                                                                                    | With or without                                                                                            | Avoid                                                                                                 | Low                                                                                                      |
| <b>Fluvastatin</b><br>Lescol®                                                                              | 20-40 mg                           | 40 mg BID                                 |                                     | PM<br>(unless BID)                                                                                     | With or without                                                                                            | No effect                                                                                             | Very low                                                                                                 |
| <b>Fluvastatin ER</b><br>Lescol XL®                                                                        |                                    | 80 mg XL                                  |                                     | Any                                                                                                    | With or without                                                                                            | No effect                                                                                             | Very low                                                                                                 |
| <b>Lovastatin</b><br>Mevacor®                                                                              | 20 mg                              | 40-80 mg                                  |                                     | PM<br>(unless BID)                                                                                     | With food                                                                                                  | Avoid                                                                                                 | Moderate                                                                                                 |
| <b>Lovastatin ER</b><br>Altoprev®                                                                          | 20 mg                              | 40-80 mg                                  |                                     | Bedtime                                                                                                | Not specified <sup>†</sup>                                                                                 | Avoid                                                                                                 | Moderate                                                                                                 |
| <b>Pitavastatin</b><br>Livalo®, Zypitamag®                                                                 |                                    | 1-4 mg*                                   |                                     | Any                                                                                                    | With or without                                                                                            | No effect                                                                                             | Very low                                                                                                 |
| <b>Pravastatin</b><br>Pravachol®                                                                           | 10-20 mg                           | 40-80 mg                                  |                                     | Any                                                                                                    | With or without                                                                                            | No effect                                                                                             | Very low                                                                                                 |
| <b>Rosuvastatin</b><br>Crestor®, Ezallor®                                                                  |                                    | 5-10 mg                                   | 20-40 mg                            | Any                                                                                                    | With or without                                                                                            | No effect                                                                                             | Low                                                                                                      |
| <b>Simvastatin</b><br>Zocor®, FloLipid®                                                                    | 10 mg                              | 20-40 mg <sup>^</sup>                     |                                     | PM                                                                                                     | With or without                                                                                            | Avoid                                                                                                 | Moderate                                                                                                 |



More clinical pearls at [pyrls.com](https://pyrls.com)

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\*Some sources reference pitavastatin 1 mg as low intensity.

<sup>^</sup>Simvastatin 80 mg may be considered moderate or high intensity; however, this dose is not recommended due to ↑ risk of myopathy/rhabdomyolysis.

<sup>†</sup> The manufacturer's prescribing information does not specify whether or not each dose has to be taken with food.

**Statin dose intensities reference:** 2018 AHA/ACC/AACVPR/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/ADA/AGS/APhA/ASPC/NLA/PCNA Guideline on the Management of Blood Cholesterol

# Pharmacotherapy for COPD

Based on the 2024 Global Initiative for Chronic Lung Disease (GOLD) Report

Reference: Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease. Global Strategy for the Diagnosis, Management, and Prevention of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (2024 Report). <https://goldcopd.org/2024-gold-report/>.

Initiation of Pharmacotherapy in Stable COPD

Select initial pharmacotherapy based upon current symptoms and exacerbations history

Exacerbations

≥ 2 moderate exacerbations OR ≥1 resulting in hospital admission

E

LABA + LAMA

- If eos ≥ 300, consider LABA + LAMA + ICS
- Consider single-inhaler options for patient convenience

≤ 1 moderate exacerbations not resulting in hospital admission

A

Bronchodilator

Either long- or short-acting

LABA, LAMA, SABA or SAMA

- Long-acting generally preferred unless very occasional dyspnea
- SABA + SAMA combination more effective than either alone

B

LABA + LAMA

- Consider single-inhaler options for convenience

CAT < 10, mMRC 0-1

CAT ≥ 10, mMRC ≥ 2

Symptoms

CAT: COPD Assessment Test  
mMRC: Modified Medical Research Council dyspnea scale

COPD Treatment Goals

Stable COPD

- Improve:** symptoms, exercise tolerance, health
- Reduce risks of:** disease progression, exacerbations, death

COPD Exacerbations

- Minimize** the effects of the exacerbation
- Prevent** future exacerbations

Pharmacotherapy Key Points

Inhaled Medications

- Choice of inhaler device should be individualized for optimal efficacy, access, cost, patient preference, and ability to properly use
- Must ensure proficiency in proper use of inhalers;** educate and demonstrate
- Assess inhaler technique and adherence prior to therapy modification

Bronchodilators

- Bronchodilators are **first-line** for all diagnosed with COPD
- Long-acting agents (e.g., LABA, LAMA) are preferred over short-acting (e.g., SABA, SAMA), except in those with only occasional dyspnea and when immediate relief is needed in those on long-acting maintenance therapy
- Combination of [LABA + LABA] is preferred when starting treatment with long-acting bronchodilators; patients not controlled on a single long-acting bronchodilator should be escalated to dual (more effective)
- LAMAs provide greater exacerbation risk reduction than LABAs
- Combination of [SABA + SAMA] is more effective than either alone
- Inhaled bronchodilators are recommended over oral bronchodilators
- Theophylline is not recommended unless other bronchodilators are either unavailable or unaffordable for long-term treatment

Anti-Inflammatory Agents

- Long-term monotherapy with ICS/oral steroids is **not recommended;** low efficacy, increases risk for side effects (e.g., **pneumonia**)
- If ICS indicated, [ICS + LABA + LAMA] is **superior to & preferred over** [LABA + ICS]; [ICS + LABA + LAMA] has proven **mortality benefit** versus [LABA + LAMA] in those with symptomatic COPD and history of exacerbations
- ICS can be added to [LABA + LAMA] regimens to improve symptoms and reduce exacerbations in those with signs of inflammation (e.g., comorbid asthma, eos ≥ 300 or present with an exacerbation history)
  - ICS **should** be included if features of asthma are present
- Addition of PDE4 inhibitor to [LABA + LAMA (+/- ICS)] may be considered in those with severe to very severe airflow limitation, chronic bronchitis, and exacerbations
- In those with exacerbations despite appropriate therapy, macrolides (e.g., **azithromycin**) may be considered (especially in former smokers)

Follow-Up Pharmacotherapy Management in Stable COPD

COPD management is an individualized, continuous cycle of assessment and treatment adjustment

Is COPD controlled?

Review:

- Symptoms (e.g., dyspnea)
- Exacerbations

Assess:

- Inhaler technique and adherence
- Non-pharmacological interventions

Adjust:

- Consider escalation or de-escalation
- Switch device or molecules

Continue current therapy

No

Inhalers Chart & Administration Guides

eos: Blood eosinophil count  
ICS: Inhaled corticosteroid  
LABA: Long-acting beta-agonist  
LAMA: Long-acting muscarinic antagonist  
SABA: Short-acting beta-agonist  
SAMA: Short-acting muscarinic antagonist

Primary Issue?\*

Dyspnea (shortness of breath)

LAMA or LABA

↓

LAMA + LABA\*\*

↓

- Consider switching inhaler/medication
- Optimize non-pharmacological interventions
- Assess and address other causes of symptoms

Exacerbations

LAMA or LABA

↓

LAMA + LABA\*\*

eos < 300?

No

↓

eos ≥ 100?

No

↓

- Roflumilast if FEV1 < 50% + chronic bronchitis
- Azithromycin, especially in former smokers

LAMA + LABA + ICS\*\*

(Consider de-escalating to LAMA + LABA if significant side effects occur with ICS)

Although [LABA + ICS] is not preferred in treatment of COPD without features of asthma, if the patient has already been on [LABA + ICS] for any reason and is well controlled, the current therapy may be continued.

- If further exacerbations occur, escalate to [LABA + LAMA + ICS] (if eos ≥ 100) **or** switch to [LABA + LAMA] (if eos < 100)
- If major symptoms are present, consider switching to [LABA + LAMA]

\*If both dyspnea and exacerbation must be addressed, **use the exacerbation pathway**

\*\*For patients on [LABA + LABA] or [LABA + LABA + ICS], single-inhaler options should be considered for convenience

Pharmacotherapy Management of Acute Exacerbations\*

\*Non life-threatening

Initial Treatment: SABA (with or without SAMA)

- Initiate maintenance with **long-acting bronchodilators** as soon as stable
  - Consider adding **ICS** to [LABA + LABA] if frequent exacerbations with ↑ eos
- If severe exacerbation, consider **systemic corticosteroids** (duration: generally ≤5 days)
- If indicated (e.g., signs of bacterial infection), give **antibiotics** (duration: **5-7 days**)

pyrls

More clinical pearls at [pyrls.com](https://pyrls.com)

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**References:**  
[1] Classes of Heart Failure. American Heart Association. May 31, 2017. <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/heart-failure/what-is-heart-failure/classes-of-heart-failure>  
[2] Heidenreich PA, Bozkurt B, Aguilar D, et al. 2022 AHA/ACC/HFSA Guideline for the Management of Heart Failure: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines [published correction appears in Circulation. 2022;145(18):e895–e1033]. Circulation. 2022;145(18):e895–e1032. doi:10.1161/CIR.0000000000001063  
[3] Kittleson M, Panjath G, et al. 2023 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway on Management of Heart Failure With Preserved Ejection Fraction. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2023. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2023.03.393

Heart Failure Categories

Stage

A

At risk for HF

- No HF signs/symptoms
- No structural/functional heart disease
- No abnormal biomarkers

B

Pre-HF

- No HF signs/symptoms
- ONE of the following:
  - Structural heart disease
  - ↑ filling pressures
  - Risk factors PLUS ↑ natriuretic peptides OR persistently ↑ cardiac troponin w/o competing diagnosis

C

Symptomatic HF

- Structural heart disease AND
- Current or previous HF symptoms

D

Advanced HF

- HF symptoms interfering with normal activity and/or recurrent HF hospitalizations (despite GDMT)

LVEF

HFrEF

(reduced EF)

LVEF ≤ 40%

HFimpEF

(improved EF)

LVEF > 40%  
(upon follow up after a previous measurement of LVEF ≤ 40%)

HFmrEF

(mildly reduced EF)

LVEF 41-49%  
(w/ evidence of spontaneous/provokable ↑ LV filling pressures)

HFpEF

(preserved EF)

LVEF ≥ 50%  
(w/ evidence of spontaneous/provokable ↑ LV filling pressures)

NYHA Class

I

No symptoms from ordinary daily activities

II

No symptom at rest  
Ordinary daily physical activities cause HF symptoms

III

No symptom at rest  
Activities lighter than ordinary daily physical activities cause HF symptoms

IV

Symptoms at rest  
Discomfort worsens with physical activities

Goals of Therapy

Stage A

- Primary prevention of heart failure

Stage B

- Prevention of clinical heart failure

Stage C

- Reduction of mortality
- Reduction of heart failure symptoms and hospitalization risk
- Elimination of potential barriers to self-care

Stage D

- Provision of inotropic support until mechanical circulatory support or cardiac transplantation is available
- Palliative symptom control and functional improvement (if not eligible for mechanical circulatory support or cardiac transplantation)

Pharmacotherapy Recommendations

Stage A

- Control BP in patients with hypertension
- SGLT2i in patients with T2DM plus:
  - Established CVD or,
  - High CV risk
- Manage existing comorbidities

Stage B

- ACEi and evidence-based BB in patients with LVEF ≤ 40%
  - If LVEF ≤ 40% and recent MI, use ARB if ACEi is not tolerated

Stage C (HFpEF)

- SGLT2i in **all patients** with HFpEF (unless contraindicated)
- May consider MRA and/or ARNi if LVEF < 55-60%
  - On GDMT including max tolerated BB
  - May consider regardless of LVEF for female patients
  - May consider ARB if unable to receive ARNi therapy
- PRN loop diuretic

Stage C (HFmrEF)

- PRN diuretics (loop preferred)
- SGLT2i may be beneficial
- May consider MRA, ACEi/ARB/ARNi, and evidence-based BB particularly if LVEF is closer to HFrEF threshold

Stage C (HFimpEF)

- Continue GDMT
  - Even if asymptomatic

Stage C (HFrEF)

All patients

- ARNi or ACEi or ARB
  - ARNi: NYHA class II-III
  - ACEi or ARB: NYHA class II-IV
  - Order of preference: ARNi > ACEi > ARB
  - 36-hour washout required when switching between ACEi and ARNi (and vice versa)
- Beta Blocker (evidence-based)
  - Bisoprolol, carvedilol, metoprolol succinate
- MRA (e.g. eplerenone, spironolactone)
  - NYHA class II-IV
  - eGFR > 30 mL/min/1.73m2
  - Serum potassium < 5 mEq/L
- SGLT2i
  - With or without T2DM
- Diuretics (as needed)
  - Loop diuretics preferred

Specific patients

- Hydralazine + isosorbide dinitrate
  - African American patients on optimal therapy
  - NYHA class III-IV
- Ivabradine
  - NYHA class II-III and LVEF ≤ 35%
  - On GDMT including max tolerated BB
  - NSR with resting HR ≥ 70 BPM
- Vericiguat
  - NYHA class II-IV and LVEF < 45%
  - Recent HF worsening
  - ↑ BNP or NT-proBNP
- Digoxin
  - If symptomatic despite GDMT or
  - Unable to tolerate GDMT
- Potassium binders
  - e.g., Patiromer, sodium zirconium cyclosilicate
  - Patients with hyperkalemia (K+ ≥ 5.5 mEq/L) while on RAASI
- Omega-3 PUFA (may consider as an adjunct)
  - NYHA class II-IV

Selected Medications That May Cause or Exacerbate HF

COX inhibitors (e.g., NSAIDs)

- ↑ H2O retention, ↑ vascular resistance, ↓ response to diuretics
- Immediate onset, major induction/precipitation of HF

Thiazolidinediones

- Potential blockage of calcium channel
- Intermediate onset, major induction/precipitation of HF

Saxagliptin, Alogliptin

- Mechanism is unclear
- Immediate or delayed onset, major induction/precipitation of HF

Flecainide, Disopyramide

- Proarrhythmic, negative inotropic effects
- Immediate to intermediate onset, major induction/precipitation of HF

Sotalol

- Proarrhythmic effects, beta blockade
- Immediate to intermediate onset, major induction/precipitation of HF

Dronedarone

- Negative inotropic effects
- Immediate to intermediate onset, major induction/precipitation of HF

Doxazosin

- Beta-1 stimulation, ↑ renin and aldosterone
- Intermediate to delayed onset, moderate induction/precipitation of HF

Diltiazem, Verapamil

- Negative inotropic effects
- Immediate to intermediate onset, major induction/precipitation of HF

Nifedipine

- Negative inotropic effects
- Immediate to intermediate onset, moderate induction/precipitation of HF

Recreated from Table 13 from the 2022 AHA/ACC/HFSA Guideline for the Management of Heart Failure

| Abbreviations                                    |                                            |                                                             |                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| ACEi: angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors   | BP: blood pressure                         | HFimpEF: heart failure with improved ejection fraction      | LVEF: left ventricular ejection fraction                       |
| ARB: angiotensin (II) receptor blocker           | CVD: cardiovascular disease                | HFmrEF: heart failure with mildly reduced ejection fraction | MI: myocardial infarction                                      |
| ARNi: angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitors | eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration rate | HFpEF: heart failure with preserved ejection fraction       | MRA: mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist                     |
| BB: beta-blocker                                 | GDMT: guideline-directed medical therapy   | HFREF: heart failure with reduced ejection fraction         | NT-proBNP: N-terminal prohormone of B-type natriuretic peptide |
| BNP: B-type natriuretic peptide                  | HF: heart failure                          | LV: left ventricular                                        | NYHA: New York Heart Association                               |
|                                                  |                                            |                                                             | PRN: as needed                                                 |
|                                                  |                                            |                                                             | PUFA: polyunsaturated fatty acid                               |
|                                                  |                                            |                                                             | RAASI: renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitor          |
|                                                  |                                            |                                                             | SGLT2i: sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitor               |
|                                                  |                                            |                                                             | T2DM: type 2 diabetes mellitus                                 |

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## Blood Pressure Categories

| BP Category             | Systolic BP (mmHg) |     | Diastolic BP (mmHg) |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----|---------------------|
| Normal Blood Pressure   | <120               | AND | <80                 |
| Elevated Blood Pressure | 120-129            | AND | <80                 |
| Stage 1 Hypertension    | 130-139            | OR  | 80-89               |
| Stage 2 Hypertension    | ≥140               | OR  | ≥90                 |

Use average of ≥2 BP readings obtained on ≥2 occasions

# Hypertension Management

Based on the 2017 ACC/AHA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults



## Hypertension Treatment Goals

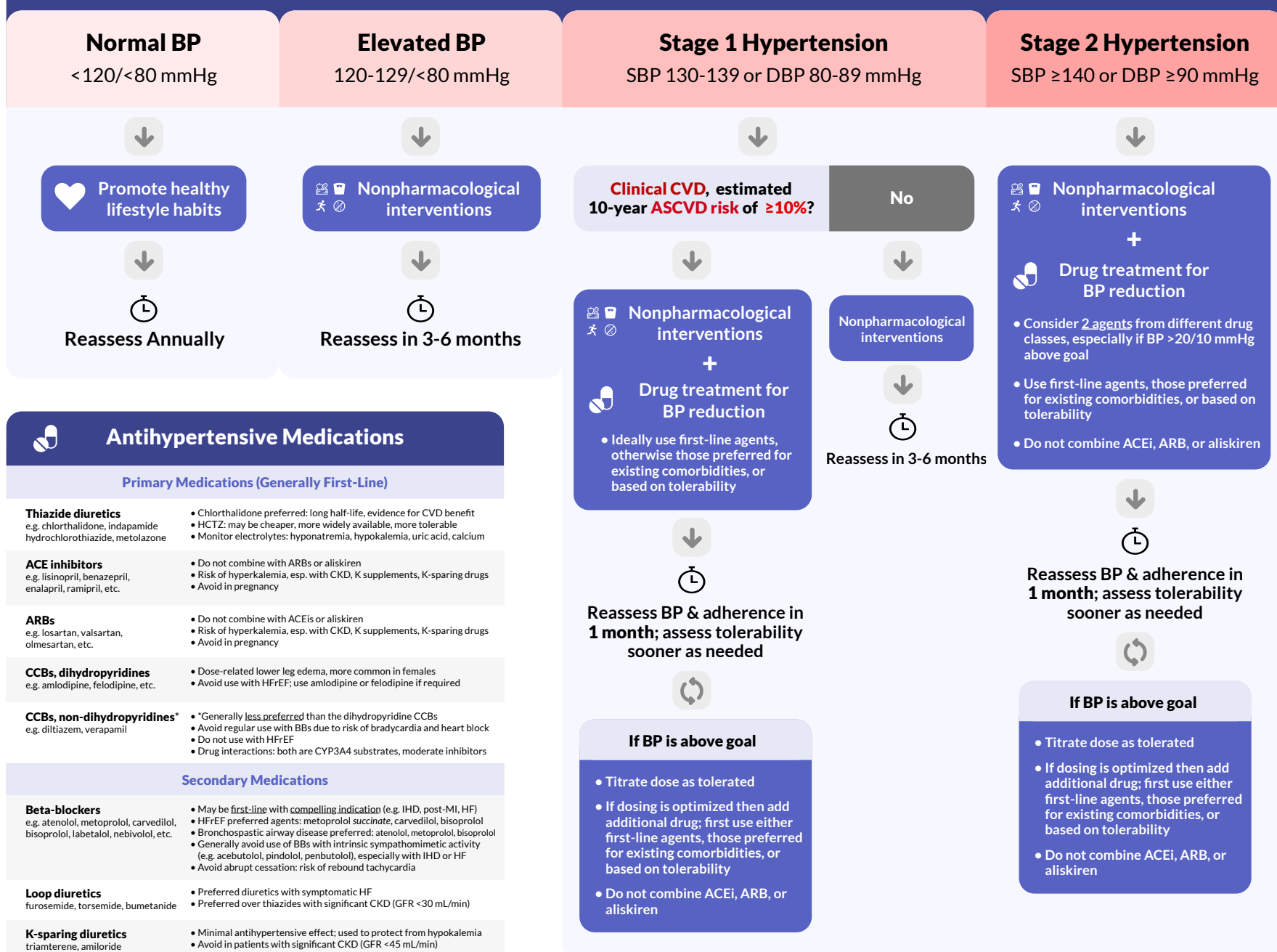
Goal for all **ages <65 years** with hypertension, regardless of chronic comorbidities, if tolerated is **<130/80 mmHg**

BP goal for **ages ≥65 years** is **<130 mmHg (SBP)**

Reasonable to adjust BP goal based on patient factors including: high comorbidity burden, life expectancy, clinical judgment, patient preference,



## Hypertension Treatment Algorithm



## Antihypertensive Medications

### Primary Medications (Generally First-Line)

**Thiazide diuretics**  
e.g. chlorthalidone, indapamide, hydrochlorothiazide, metolazone

- Chlorthalidone preferred: long half-life, evidence for CVD benefit
- HCTZ: may be cheaper, more widely available, more tolerable
- Monitor electrolytes: hyponatremia, hypokalemia, uric acid, calcium

**ACE inhibitors**  
e.g. lisinopril, benazepril, enalapril, ramipril, etc.

- Do not combine with ARBs or aliskiren
- Risk of hyperkalemia, esp. with CKD, K supplements, K-sparing drugs
- Avoid in pregnancy

**ARBs**  
e.g. losartan, valsartan, olmesartan, etc.

- Do not combine with ACEis or aliskiren
- Risk of hyperkalemia, esp. with CKD, K supplements, K-sparing drugs
- Avoid in pregnancy

**CCBs, dihydropyridines**  
e.g. amlodipine, felodipine, etc.

- Dose-related lower leg edema, more common in females
- Avoid use with HFrEF; use amlodipine or felodipine if required

**CCBs, non-dihydropyridines\***  
e.g. diltiazem, verapamil

- \*Generally less preferred than the dihydropyridine CCBs
- Avoid regular use with BBs due to risk of bradycardia and heart block
- Do not use with HFrEF
- Drug interactions: both are CYP3A4 substrates, moderate inhibitors

### Secondary Medications

**Beta-blockers**  
e.g. atenolol, metoprolol, carvedilol, bisoprolol, labetalol, nebivolol, etc.

- May be first-line with compelling indication (e.g. IHD, post-MI, HF)
- HFrEF preferred agents: metoprolol succinate, carvedilol, bisoprolol
- Bronchospastic airway disease preferred: atenolol, metoprolol, bisoprolol
- Generally avoid use of BBs with intrinsic sympathomimetic activity (e.g. acebutolol, pindolol, penbutolol), especially with IHD or HF
- Avoid abrupt cessation: risk of rebound tachycardia

**Loop diuretics**  
furosemide, torsemide, bumetanide

- Preferred diuretics with symptomatic HF
- Preferred over thiazides with significant CKD (GFR <30 mL/min)

**K-sparing diuretics**  
triamterene, amiloride

- Minimal antihypertensive effect; used to protect from hypokalemia
- Avoid in patients with significant CKD (GFR <45 mL/min)

**Aldosterone antagonists**  
spironolactone, eplerenone

- Preferred add-on with resistant HTN and in primary aldosteronism
- K-sparing diuretic effect: avoid with K-sparing diuretics, or CKD
- Spironolactone > risk of gynecomastia, impotence than eplerenone

**Alpha-1 blockers**  
doxazosin, prazosin, terazosin

- May be considered second-line in those with concomitant BPH
- Risk for orthostatic hypotension, especially in older adults

**Direct vasodilators**  
hydralazine, minoxidil

- Use w/ a diuretic and BB: causes fluid retention and reflex tachycardia
- Hydralazine has risk of drug-induced lupus-like syndrome
- Minoxidil has risk of hirsutism and requires use with a loop diuretic

**Central alpha-2 agonists**  
clonidine, guanfacine, methylglodopa

- Generally last-line due to CNS adverse effects, orthostatic hypotension
- Avoid abrupt cessation: risk of rebound hypertension (esp. clonidine)

**Reference:** Whelton PK, Carey RM, Aronow WS, et al. 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines [published correction appears in J Am Coll Cardiol. 2018 May 15;71(19):2275-2279]. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2018;71(19):e127-e248. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2017.11.006



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## Smoking Cessation Pharmacotherapy Options

| DRUG                                                     | USUAL DOSE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | RX OR OTC?                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>NON-NICOTINE THERAPIES</b>                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Varenicline (Chantix)<br>0.5 mg and 1 mg tablets         | <b>Starting titration:</b> 0.5 mg x 3 days, 0.5 mg twice daily x 4 days, 1 mg twice daily starting Day 8 on quit date<br><b>Maintenance dose:</b> 1 mg twice daily                                                                                                                           |                                                                                        |
| Bupropion SR (Zyban)<br>150 mg SR tablets                | <b>Starting titration:</b> 150 mg once daily AM x 3 days, then 150 mg twice daily x 4 days, quit on day 8<br><b>Maintenance dose:</b> 150 mg twice daily                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                        |
| <b>NICOTINE REPLACEMENT THERAPIES (NRT)</b>              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Nicotine Transdermal Patch<br>21 mg, 14 mg, 7 mg options | <b>Smoking &gt; 10 cigarettes/day:</b> Use 21 mg patch per day for weeks 1-6, then use 14 mg patch per day for weeks 7-8, then use 7 mg patch per day for weeks 9-10<br><b>Smoking ≤ 10 cigarettes/day:</b> Use 14 mg patch per day for weeks 1-6, then use 7 mg patch per day for weeks 7-8 |     |
| Nicotine Gum                                             | <b>First cigarette within 30 min of waking up:</b> 4 mg gum PRN every 1-2 hours for cravings, decrease interval of use over 12 weeks<br><b>First cigarette after 30 min of waking up:</b> 2 mg gum PRN every 1-2 hours for cravings, decrease interval of use over 12 weeks                  |     |
| Nicotine lozenge or<br>Nicotine mini-lozenge             | <b>First cigarette within 30 min of waking up:</b> 4 mg lozenge PRN every 1-2 hours for cravings, decrease interval of use over 12 weeks<br><b>First cigarette after 30 min of waking up:</b> 2 mg lozenge PRN every 1-2 hours for cravings, decrease interval of use over 12 weeks          |   |
| Nicotine Inhaler                                         | <b>Continuously puff for 20 minutes PRN</b> for smoking cravings.<br>(Use 6-16 cartridges per day for up to 12 weeks)<br>Decrease interval of use over time.                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                      |
| Nicotine Nasal Spray                                     | Use 1-2 doses/hour (dose = 1 spray per nostril), <b>not exceeding 5 doses/hour</b> .<br><b>Max duration of therapy: 3 months</b>                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                      |

| DRUG                                                           | PRECAUTIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | CONTRAINDICATIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>NON-NICOTINE THERAPIES</b>                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Varenicline (Chantix)                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe renal impairment (dose adjustment necessary for CrCl &lt;30 ml/min)</li> <li>Pregnancy (Category C) and breastfeeding</li> <li>Adolescents (&lt;18 years of age)</li> <li>Treatment-emergent neuropsychiatric symptoms</li> </ul>                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of serious hypersensitivity reactions to varenicline or its components</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Bupropion SR (Zyban)                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concomitant therapy with medications or conditions known to lower seizure threshold</li> <li>Hepatic impairment</li> <li>Pregnancy (Category C) and breastfeeding</li> <li>Adolescents (&lt;18 years of age)</li> <li>Treatment-emergent neuropsychiatric symptoms</li> </ul>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seizure disorder</li> <li>Concomitant bupropion treatment</li> <li>Current or prior dx of bulimia or anorexia nervosa</li> <li>Simultaneous abrupt discontinuation of alcohol or sedatives/benzodiazepines</li> <li>MAO inhibitors during preceding 14 days; concurrent use of reversible MAO inhibitors</li> </ul> |
| <b>NICOTINE REPLACEMENT THERAPIES (NRT)</b>                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Nicotine Transdermal Patch<br>Nicotine Gum<br>Nicotine Lozenge | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recent (&lt;2 weeks) myocardial infarction</li> <li>Serious underlying arrhythmias</li> <li>Serious or worsening angina pectoris</li> <li>Pregnancy and/or breastfeeding</li> <li>Adolescents (&lt;18 years of age)</li> <li>Temporomandibular joint disease (<i>gum only</i>)</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Nicotine Nasal Spray                                           | <i>All above OTC nicotine precautions PLUS:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>underlying chronic nasal disorders</li> <li>severe reactive airway disease</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Nicotine Inhaler                                               | <i>All above OTC nicotine precautions PLUS:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>underlying bronchospastic disease</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

Complete Regimens

**Atripla®**  
Efavirenz (EFV) +  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Biktarvy®**  
Bictegravir (BIC) +  
Tenofovir alafenamide (TAF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Cabenuva®**  
Cabotegravir (CAB) +  
Rilpivirine (RPV)

**Complera®**  
Rilpivirine (RPV) +  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Delstrigo®**  
Doravirine (DOR) +  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Dovato®**  
Dolutegravir (DTG) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Genvoya®**  
Elvitegravir (EVG) + Cobicistat (COBI) +  
Tenofovir alafenamide (TAF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Juluca®**  
Dolutegravir (DTG) +  
Rilpivirine (RPV)

**Odefsey®**  
Rilpivirine (RPV) +  
Tenofovir alafenamide (TAF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Stribild®**  
Elvitegravir (EVG) + Cobicistat (COBI) +  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Symfi®**  
Efavirenz (EFV) +  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Symfi Lo®**  
Efavirenz (EFV) (lower dose) +  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Symtuza®**  
Darunavir (DRV) + Cobicistat (COBI) +  
Tenofovir alafenamide (TAF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Triumeq®**  
Dolutegravir (DTG) +  
Abacavir (ABC) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

Nucleoside/Nucleotide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NRTIs)

**Cimduo®**  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Combivir®**  
Zidovudine (ZDV) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Descovy®**  
Tenofovir alafenamide (TAF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Emtriva®**  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Epivir®**  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Epzicom®**  
Abacavir (ABC) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Retrovir®**  
Zidovudine (ZDV)

**Temixys®**  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Lamivudine (3TC)

**Trizivir®**  
Abacavir (ABC) +  
Lamivudine (3TC) +  
Zidovudine (ZDV)

**Truvada®**  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) +  
Emtricitabine (FTC)

**Viread®**  
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF)

**Ziagen®**  
Abacavir (ABC)

Capsid Inhibitors

**Sunlenca®**  
Lenacapavir (LEN)

Protease Inhibitors (PIs)

**Aptivus®**  
Tipranavir (TPV)

**Evotaz®**  
Atazanavir (ATV) +  
Cobicistat (COBI)

**Invirase®**  
Saquinavir (SQV)

**Kaletra®**  
Lopinavir (LPV) +  
Ritonavir (RTV)

**Lexiva®**  
Fosamprenavir (FPV)

**Prezcobix®**  
Darunavir (DRV) +  
Cobicistat (COBI)

**Prezista®**  
Darunavir (DRV)

**Reyataz®**  
Atazanavir (ATV)

Entry Inhibitors

**Fuzeon®**  
Enfuvirtide (T-20)  
(Fusion Inhibitor)

**Rukobia®**  
Fostemsavir (FTR)  
(Attachment Inhibitor)

**Selzentry®**  
Maraviroc (MVC)  
(CCR5 Antagonist)

**Trogarzo®**  
Ibalizumab-uiyk (IBA)  
(Post-attachment Inhibitor)

Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NNRTIs)

**Edurant®**  
Rilpivirine (RPV)

**Intelence®**  
Etravirine (ETR)

**Pifeltro®**  
Doravirine (DOR)

**Sustiva®**  
Efavirenz (EFV)

**Viramune®**  
Nevirapine (NVP)

Integrase Inhibitors (INSTIs)

**Isentress®**  
Raltegravir (RAL)

**Tivicay®**  
Dolutegravir (DTG)

**Vocabria® (Oral)**  
**Apretude® (IM)**  
Cabotegravir (CAB)  
*Note: IM cabotegravir (Apretude®) is only FDA-approved for HIV PrEP*

PK Boosters

**Norvir®**  
Ritonavir (RTV)

**Tybost®**  
Cobicistat (COBI)

Drug Name Abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Full Drug Name                |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 3TC          | Lamivudine                    |
| ABC          | Abacavir                      |
| ATV          | Atazanavir                    |
| BIC          | Bictegravir                   |
| CAB          | Cabotegravir                  |
| COBI or c    | Cobicistat                    |
| DOR          | Doravirine                    |
| DRV          | Darunavir                     |
| DTG          | Dolutegravir                  |
| EFV          | Efavirenz                     |
| ETR          | Etravirine                    |
| EVG          | Elvitegravir                  |
| FPV          | Fosamprenavir                 |
| FTC          | Emtricitabine                 |
| FTR          | Fostemsavir                   |
| IBA          | Ibalizumab                    |
| LEN          | Lenacapavir                   |
| LPV          | Lopinavir                     |
| MVC          | Maraviroc                     |
| NVP          | Nevirapine                    |
| RAL          | Raltegravir                   |
| RPV          | Rilpivirine                   |
| RTV or r     | Ritonavir                     |
| SQV          | Saquinavir                    |
| T-20         | Enfuvirtide                   |
| TAF          | Tenofovir alafenamide         |
| TDF          | Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate |
| TPV          | Tipranavir                    |
| ZDV          | Zidovudine                    |

Not Recommended

These antiretroviral agents are no longer recommended for HIV treatment due to various reasons including poor efficacy, toxicity, pill burden, and pharmacology:

- Delavirdine (DLV)
- Didanosine (ddI)
- Indinavir (IDV)
- Nelfinavir (NFV)
- Stavudine (d4T)

Source: Panel on Antiretroviral Guidelines for Adults and Adolescents. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Adults and Adolescents with HIV. Department of Health and Human Services. Available at <https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/adult-and-adolescent-arv>. Accessed 03/10/2023.

Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia (CAP) in Non-Pregnant Adults

Reference: AM J Respir Crit Care Med; 2019; 200(7):



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OUTPATIENT \*

Assess for comorbidities

Chronic heart, lung, liver or renal  
Diabetes  
Alcoholism  
Malignancy  
Asplenia

NO

Recommended empiric therapy

Amoxicillin 1 gram three times daily  
OR  
Doxycycline 100 mg twice daily  
OR  
Macrolide (if pneumococcal resistance is <25%)

YES

Recommended empiric therapy

Combination therapy of amoxicillin/clavulanate or cephalosporin^ + macrolide  
OR  
Combination therapy of amoxicillin/clavulanate or cephalosporin + doxycycline  
OR  
Monotherapy with respiratory fluoroquinolone†

^ cefpodoxime or cefuroxime

\*Outpatient Treatment Strategies are for adults with no risk factors for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

\* Risk factors include prior isolation of MRSA or *P. aeruginosa* from the respiratory tract in the last 12 months or hospitalization AND receipt of parental antibiotics in the last 90 days

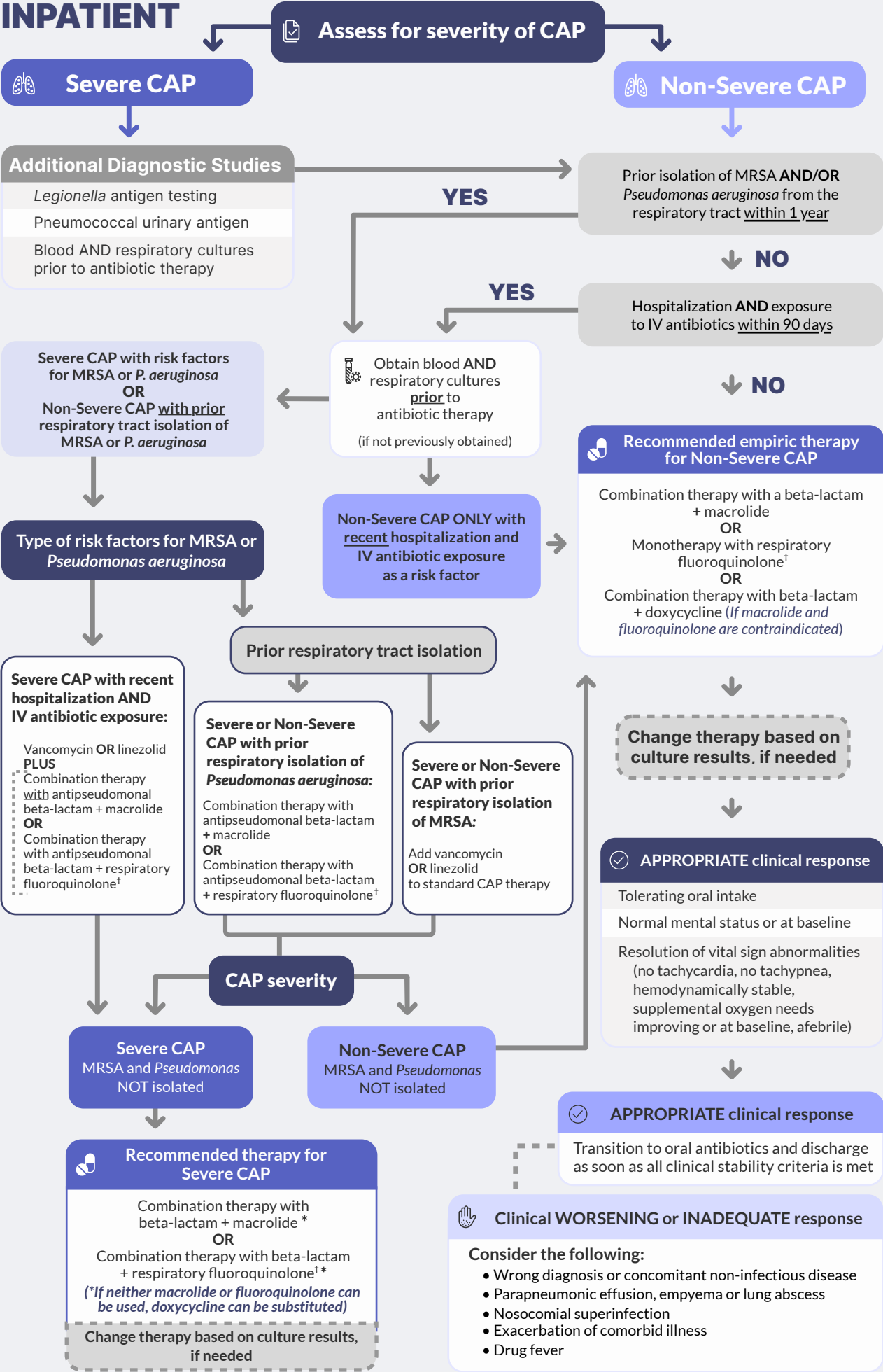
Key Points

- Obtain a MRSA nasal PCR to identify patients that require MRSA coverage (and those that do not)
- 5 days of antibiotic therapy is recommended for patients with an appropriate initial response to therapy and who are clinically stable
- Antibiotic therapy for CAP due to *Staphylococcus aureus* or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* should be continued for at least 7 days in patients with an appropriate initial response to therapy
- Testing for influenza is recommended if it is prevalent in the community
- Testing for *Legionella* is recommended if indicated by epidemiological risk factors

Note: Assess for antibiotic allergies and use alternative agents as appropriate. Suggested antibiotic doses are for normal renal function; Adjust for renal impairment when necessary.

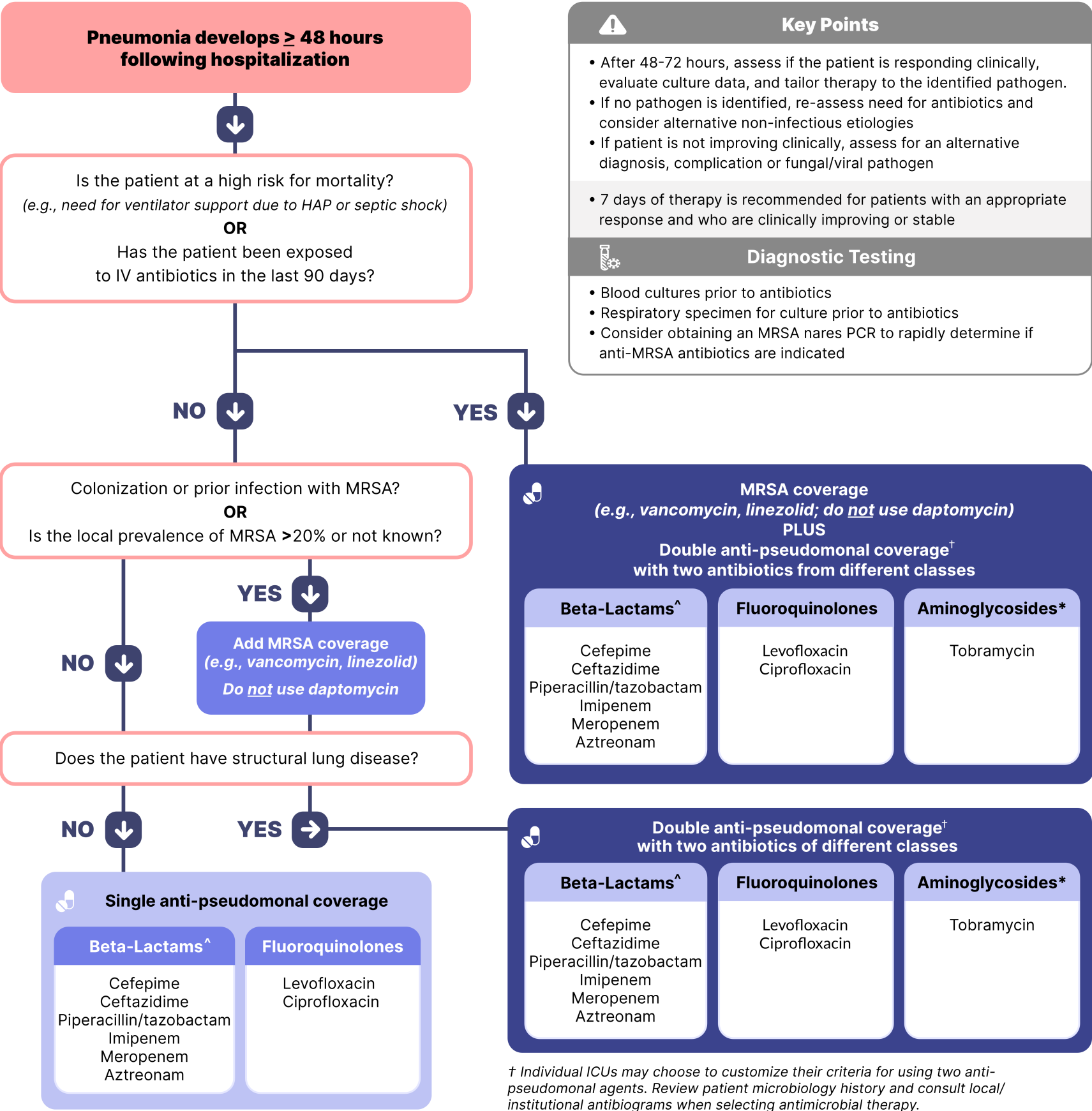
This is intended only as a guide for evidence-based decision-making. It is not intended to replace clinical judgment.

INPATIENT



† moxifloxacin, levofloxacin or delafloxacin (please note - the use of delafloxacin was not addressed in this guideline as it was not indicated for community-acquired bacterial pneumonia at the time it was published; it is currently FDA-approved)

# Empiric Management of Hospital-Acquired Pneumonia (HAP) in Non-Pregnant Adults

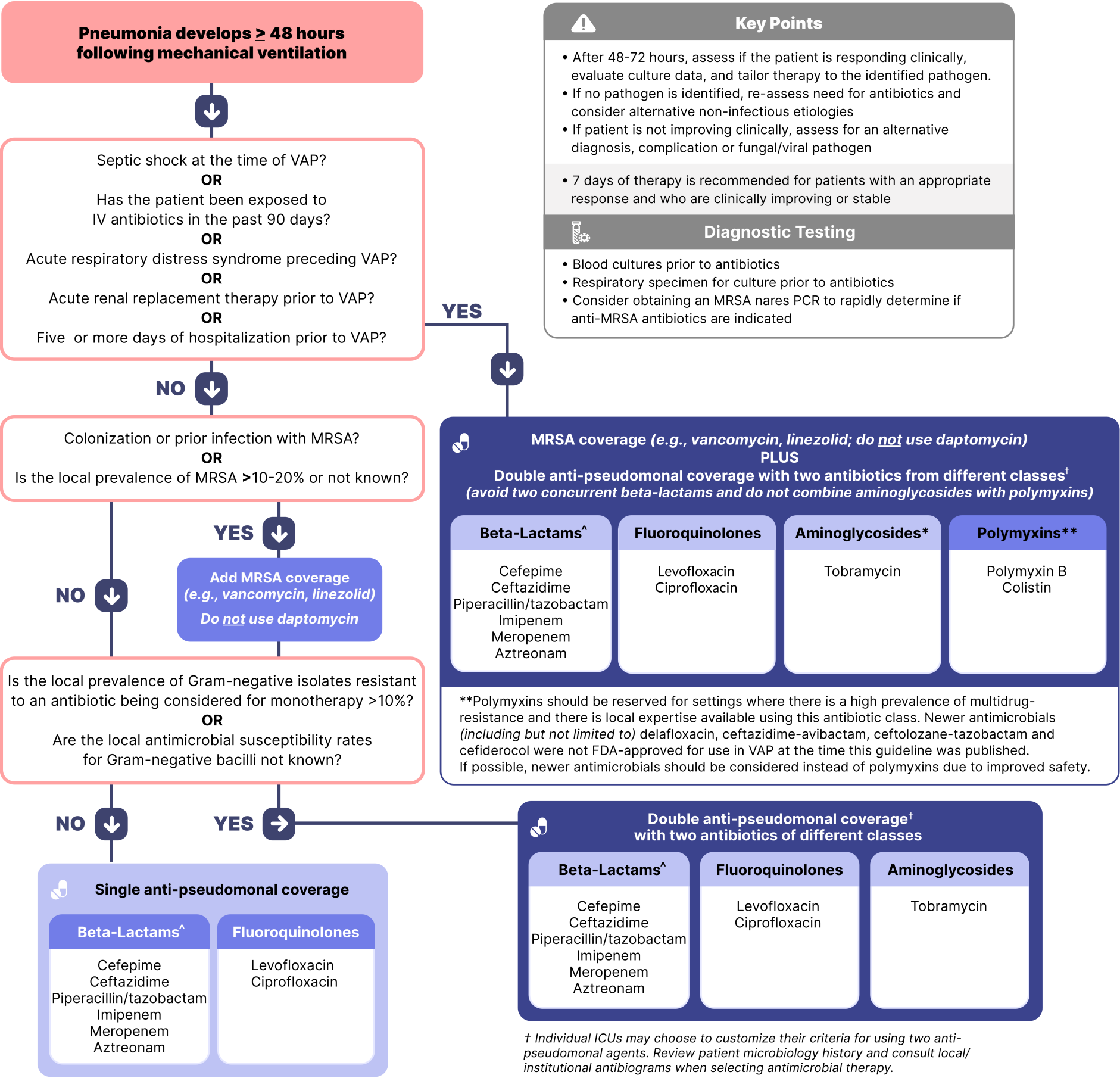


<sup>^</sup> While **ertapenem** is a carbapenem, it does **not** have coverage against *P. aeruginosa*. Anti-pseudomonal carbapenems (imipenem, meropenem) should be reserved for situations when other agents would not be appropriate.

\* Per the revised **aminoglycoside** breakpoints published by the CLSI, **gentamicin** is **no longer** considered to be a clinically effective treatment option for *P. aeruginosa* infections. Additionally, the CLSI update states that **amikacin** should only be considered as an option for **UTIs** caused by *P. aeruginosa*.

**Note:** This is intended only as a guide for evidence-based decision-making. It is not intended to replace clinical judgment.

# Empiric Management of Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP) in Non-Pregnant Adults



# CDC Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guidelines (2021)



## Summary of Recommended Therapies in Adult Patients\*

\*Does not address special populations such as pregnant patients, pediatric patients, or patients with HIV

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### Acute Epididymitis

Ceftriaxone 500 mg IM x 1 dose, *plus*  
Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 10 days  
(for likely chlamydial/gonococcal infection)

### Bacterial Vaginosis

Metronidazole 500 mg PO BID x 7 days

### Cervicitis

Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 7 days  
(*empiric therapy for high-risk patients*)

### Chancroid

Azithromycin 1000 mg PO x 1 dose  
*or*  
Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM x 1 dose

### Chlamydia

Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 7 days

### Genital Herpes

Valacyclovir 1000 mg PO BID  
for 7 - 10 days  
(*initial episode*)

### Granuloma Inguinale

Azithromycin 1000 mg PO weekly  
(or 500 mg daily) for > 3 weeks  
(*until all lesions have healed*)

### HPV Anogenital Warts

Imiquimod 5% cream:  
Apply at bedtime 3 nights per week  
for < 16 weeks

### Lymphogranuloma Venereum

Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 21 days

### Mycoplasma Genitalium

Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 7 days *then*,  
Moxifloxacin 400 mg PO QD x 7 days  
(*empiric therapy for when resistance testing not available*)

### Pediculosis Pubis

Permethrin 1% cream rinse:  
Apply to affected area and wash off  
after 10 minutes

### Pelvic Inflammatory Disease

Ceftriaxone 500 mg IM x 1 dose, *plus*  
Doxycycline 100mg PO BID x 14 days, *plus*  
Metronidazole 500 mg PO BID x 14 days  
(*outpatient therapy*)

### Proctitis

Ceftriaxone 500 mg IM x 1 dose  
*plus*  
Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 7 days

### Scabies

Permethrin 5% cream:  
Apply to all areas of body from neck  
down and wash off after 8-14 hrs

### Syphilis

Benzathine penicillin G (Bicillin L-A®)  
2.4 million units IM x 1 dose  
(*primary & secondary stages*)

### Trichomoniasis

**Females:** Metronidazole 500 mg  
PO BID x 7 days  
**Males:** Metronidazole 2 g PO x 1 dose

### Uncomplicated Gonorrhea

Ceftriaxone 500 mg IM x 1 dose  
*if chlamydia infection cannot be ruled out add*  
*doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 7 days*

### Uncomplicated Vulvovaginal Candidiasis

**OTC:** Miconazole 1200 mg  
vaginal suppository x 1 dose *or*  
**Rx:** Fluconazole 150 mg PO x 1 dose

### Urethritis

Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 7 days  
(*non-gonococcal*)

#### Reference:

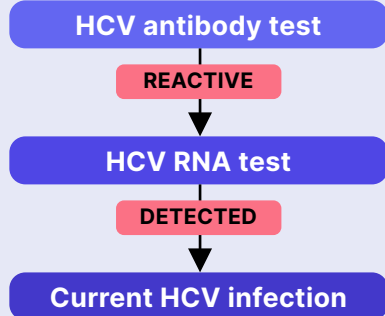
Workowski, K. A., Bachmann, L. H., Chan, P. A., Johnston, C. M., Muzny, C. A., Park, I., Reno, H., Zenilman, J. M., & Bolan, G. A. (2021). Sexually transmitted infections treatment guidelines, 2021. MMWR. Recommendations and Reports: Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Recommendations and Reports, 70(4), 1-187.



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## Diagnosis of HCV Infection



- **Reduce mortality**
- **Prevent liver-related health complications**
- **Achieve sustained virologic response (SVR)**
  - Undetectable HCV RNA for at least 12 weeks after treatment completion
  - Achieving SVR = **virological cure**

- Prior hepatitis C treatment  
(i.e. treatment-experienced patients)
- HBsAg positive
- Current pregnancy
- Known or suspected hepatocellular carcinoma

- **Treatment-naïve adult** patients without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis (Child-Pugh A) who do not belong in any of the special patient groups\*
- The **majority** of patients are eligible for **simplified treatment**\*



### Assess at any point prior to starting treatment

- Quantitative HCV RNA (IU/mL)
- HIV antigen/antibody
- HBV (HBsAg, anti-HBc, and anti-HBs)
- Pregnancy (serum testing)
- HCV genotype (if considering sofosbuvir/velpatasvir in a patient with cirrhosis)
- CTP score (if considering simplified treatment in a patient with cirrhosis)
- FIB-4 score
- Evidence of cirrhosis
  - Transient elastography, serologic tests, prior liver biopsy, or other clinical evidence of cirrhosis

**Assess within 6 months prior to starting treatment**

- Complete blood count (CBC)\*
- Hepatic function panel\*
- Estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR)\*
- International normalized ratio (INR)\*
- Liver ultrasound (if considering simplified treatment in an patient with cirrhosis)

*\*Test within 3 months prior to initiating (not within 6 months) if initiating simplified treatment in a patient with compensated cirrhosis.*

**FIB-4:** Fibrosis-4



- **No routine laboratory** monitoring required for most patients

- Monitor for **side effects** in all patients
- Monitor for **hypoglycemia** in patients taking **medications for glycemic control\***
- Monitor for **subtherapeutic INR** in patients taking **warfarin\***
- Monitor for liver injury / worsening liver tests in patients with **compensated cirrhosis**
- Assess HCV RNA (plus hepatic function in patients with cirrhosis) **at least 12 weeks** after treatment completion to confirm achievement of SVR

*\*Clearance of HCV infection may lead to changes in liver function, which may impact response to these medications*



## Glecaprevir 100 mg / Pibrentasvir 40 mg (Mavyret)

Take **3 tablets** (100 mg/40 mg x 3) by mouth  
once daily **with food** for **8 weeks**

- Use with **ethinyl estradiol-containing medications** (such as combined oral contraceptives) is **not** recommended due to concerns for **ALT elevation**
- Coadministration with **statins** increases the risk for myopathy and rhabdomyolysis (fluvastatin, pravastatin, rosuvastatin, and pitavastatin may require dose adjustments; **avoid atorvastatin, lovastatin, simvastatin**)

**OR**

**Sofosbuvir 400 mg / Velpatasvir 100 mg  
(Epclusa)**

Take 1 tablet (400 mg/100 mg) by mouth  
once daily **with or without food** for **12 weeks**

- Test HCV genotype for patients with compensated cirrhosis; those with genotype 3 **without** NS5A resistance-associated substitution Y93H may receive 12 weeks of Epclusa
- Separate dosing from **acid-reducing agents**,
  - **Antacids**: separate from Epclusa by 4 hr
  - **H2RAs**: give simultaneously or separate from Epclusa by 12 hr; avoid doses higher than famotidine 40 mg BID (or equivalent)
  - **PPIs**: not recommended; if necessary, take Epclusa with food 4 hr before omeprazole 20 mg

## Shared Counseling Points

- Store in the **original container**
- Avoid missing doses
- Common side effects are **headache** and **fatigue**
- Avoid excess alcohol use
- Risk of **HBV reactivation** in coinfectd patients (during or after HCV treatment)

- **High risk for drug interactions:**
  - All direct-acting antivirals should be avoided with strong CYP3A4 inducers
  - Avoid amiodarone use with sofosbuvir-containing regimens

*Check with healthcare provider before starting new meds, supplements and herbal products*



### If SVR was NOT achieved

- No liver-related follow-up needed in patients without cirrhosis
  - **Patients with cirrhosis:** monitor (ultrasound) for hepatocellular carcinoma every 6 months **AND** monitor (endoscopic surveillance\*) for esophageal varices
- \*Follow the AASLD's portal hypertensive bleeding in cirrhosis guidelines*
- If the patient is at **ongoing risk for HCV infection** (e.g., IV drug use, MSM engaging in unprotected sex) test HCV RNA **annually**

- **Refer to specialist** for evaluation for **retreatment**
- Assess for disease progression **every 6-12 months** until retreatment begins
- **Patients with cirrhosis:** ultrasound **every 6 months** for hepatocellular carcinoma

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Overview of Cirrhosis

?

What is cirrhosis?

- **End-stage** of chronic liver disease
- Characterized by **advanced fibrosis/scarring**
- Complications include portal hypertension, varices, ascites, HE, HRS, SBP, liver cancer, and liver failure
- Common causes: alcohol-associated liver disease, chronic viral hepatitis infection, nonalcoholic fatty liver disease
- Diagnosed by **liver biopsy** (gold standard but invasive) or clinical findings (imaging, labs, medical history, presentations)



Classification of cirrhosis

- Child-Turcotte-Pugh (**CTP**) or Child-Pugh (**CP**) score assesses stage and severity of cirrhosis
  - Considers total bilirubin, albumin, INR, and degree of ascites and encephalopathy
  - Classifies into A (compensated), B (early decompensated), or C (severely decompensated)
- Model for End-Stage Liver Disease (**MELD**) score assesses prognosis (3-month mortality) for patients with cirrhosis
  - 12 or higher predicts increased risk of complications



Goals of therapy

- Prevent complications of cirrhosis
- Prevent hepatic decompensation
- Reduce mortality

Cirrhosis

Scarring/fibrosis leads to increased hepatic resistance

Portal Hypertension

Redirection of blood flow to collateral veins

Varices

Splanchnic vasodilation

Activation of endogenous vasoconstrictive systems (e.g., RAAS)

Renal vasoconstriction and sodium retention

Ascites

Hepatorenal Syndrome

Hepatic dysfunction leads to increase in systemic ammonia

Hepatic Encephalopathy

Bacterial translocation

Spontaneous Bacterial Peritonitis

HE Hepatic encephalopathy

HRS Hepatorenal syndrome

SBP Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis



Portal Hypertension (PH) & Varices

- Scarring of liver impedes blood flow through portal vein, increasing the blood pressure
  - **Varices** = distension in collateral vessels from redirected blood; at risk of **variceal hemorrhage**
- PH defined as **hepatic venous pressure gradient (HVPG) > 5 mmHg**
  - HVPG = difference in pressure between portal vein and hepatic veins
  - HVPG  $\geq$  10 mmHg = **clinically significant portal hypertension (CSPH)**
- **Primary prophylaxis of variceal hemorrhage**
  - A beta-blocker (**propranolol** 20-40 mg twice daily, **nadolol** 20-40 mg once daily, or **carvedilol** 6.25 mg twice daily) continued indefinitely, **OR**
  - Endoscopic variceal ligation (**EVL**) every 2-8 weeks until variceal eradication
- **Treatment of acute variceal hemorrhage**
  - **IV ceftriaxone** (1 g/day x max 7 days) + **EVL** + a vasoactive drug (see below)
    - **Octreotide**: 50 mcg bolus  $\rightarrow$  continuous infusion at 50 mcg/hr for 2-5 days, **or**
    - **Vasopressin**: continuous infusion at 0.2-0.4 units/min (max 0.8 units/min) for 24 hours + concurrent IV nitroglycerin to maintain SBP of 90 mmHg, **or**
    - **Terlipressin**: 2 mg IV every 4 hours during the first 48 hours to control bleeding, then 1 mg every 4 hours to prevent rebleeding (total duration 2-5 days)
- **Secondary prophylaxis of variceal hemorrhage**
  - A non-selective beta-blocker (**propranolol** 20-40 mg twice daily or **nadolol** 20-40 mg once daily) continued indefinitely, **AND**
  - **EVL** every 1-4 weeks until variceal eradication



Spontaneous Bacterial Peritonitis (SBP)

- Often no clear source of infection; mainly Gram-negative bacteria (*E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae*) but some Gram-positive organisms can be common (*S. aureus*, *E. faecalis*, *E. faecium*)
- **Diagnosis**: polymorphonuclear (PMN) leukocyte > 250/mm<sup>3</sup> in the ascitic fluid
- **Treatment: antibiotic therapy + IV albumin**
  - Empiric 3rd-gen cephalosporin (e.g., **ceftriaxone**, **cefotaxime**) generally recommended
  - **Broad spectrum** agents (e.g., **piperacillin/tazobactam**) recommended for healthcare-associated or nosocomial infection, those with recent exposure to broad-spectrum abx, or those admitted with sepsis/septic shock
  - Add **vancomycin** if prior MRSA infection or positive MRSA swab
  - Add **daptomycin** for vancomycin-resistant enterococcus
  - **Meropenem** +/- glycopeptide if current or recent exposure to piperacillin/tazobactam
  - Repeat diagnostic paracentesis **48 hours** from initiation; PMN decrease of **< 25%** from baseline may require broadening of antibiotic therapy or investigation of secondary peritonitis
- **Secondary prevention**
  - Long-term prophylaxis with **ciprofloxacin** 500 mg/day
- **Primary prevention**
  - IV ceftriaxone for patients with variceal hemorrhage (see PH & Varices section)
  - Generally only needed if high risk of infection present
  - **Ciprofloxacin** for patients with low ascitic fluid protein (< 1.5 g/dL) + and renal dysfunction or liver failure



Ascites

- Accumulation of **excess fluid** in the abdomen; often the first decompensating event
- **Dietary sodium restriction (to 2 g/day)** recommended for net fluid loss
- **Diuretic therapy (aldosterone antagonist + loop diuretic)**
  - **Preferred**: spironolactone + furosemide
  - Initially **spironolactone 100 mg + furosemide 40 mg per day**
  - Titrate to maximum of spironolactone 400 mg + furosemide 160 mg per day
  - At least **72-hour interval** needed between dose titrations
  - Taper down to the lowest effective dose after fluid is adequately mobilized
- Monitor daily body weight to assess efficacy of diuretics
  - Up to **0.5 kg/day weight loss** is generally appropriate (up to 1 kg/day for those with edema)



Hepatorenal Syndrome (HRS)

- Renal complication due to hemodynamic changes and systemic inflammation associated with cirrhosis
- **Diagnosis of HRS-AKI (acute kidney injury from HRS)**
  - Cirrhosis with ascites
  - Diagnosis of AKI ( $\uparrow$  SCr by  $\geq$  0.3 mg/dL in 48 hr OR  $\geq$  50%  $\uparrow$  in SCr in the past 7 days)
  - No response after 2 consecutive days of diuretic withdrawal & plasma volume expansion with albumin infusion
  - No current/recent use of nephrotoxic drugs, structural kidney injury, or shock
- **Treatment of HRS-AKI**
  - Vasoconstrictor (**terlipressin** preferred; **norepinephrine** also recommended) + **albumin**
  - Decrease in SCr to < 1.5 mg/dL or return to baseline within 0.3 mg/dL over maximum of **14 days** indicates **successful response**



Hepatic Encephalopathy (HE)

- Believed to be due to ammonia accumulation caused by hepatic dysfunction
- **Symptoms**: impaired memory and motor function, **asterixis ("flapping tremor")**, personality changes, coma
- Categorized with West Haven criteria (WHC grades 1 to 4)
- Diagnosed by excluding other causes of cognitive dysfunction
- **Short-term** protein restriction may be necessary for nitrogen modulation

- Treatment recommended for fully symptomatic overt HE
  - **Lactulose** (nonabsorbable disaccharide): preferred treatment
    - 30-45 mL every 1-2 hours until at least 2 soft stools/day are produced
    - Thereafter, titrated to maintain 2-3 soft stools/day
  - **Rifaximin** (add-on to lactulose) to **prevent** HE recurrence after **second** episode
    - 550 mg twice daily

Reference:

[1] American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases; European Association for the Study of the Liver. Hepatic encephalopathy in chronic liver disease: 2014 practice guideline by the European Association for the Study of the Liver and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. J Hepatol. 2014 Sep;61(3):642-59. doi: 10.1016/j.jhep.2014.05.042. Epub 2014 Jul 8. Erratum in: J Hepatol. 2015 Oct;63(4):1055.

[2] Biggins SW, Angeli P, et al. Diagnosis, evaluation, and management of ascites, spontaneous bacterial peritonitis and hepatorenal syndrome: 2021 Practice guidance by the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. Hepatology. 2021 Aug;74(2):1014-1048. doi: 10.1002/hep.31884.

[3] Garcia-Tsao G, Abraldes JG, et al. Portal hypertensive bleeding in cirrhosis: Risk stratification, diagnosis, and management: 2016 practice guidance by the American Association for the study of liver diseases. Hepatology. 2017 Jan;65(1):310-335. doi: 10.1002/hep.28906. Epub 2016 Dec 1. Erratum in: Hepatology. 2017 Jul;66(1):304.

[4] Smith A, Baumgartner K, et al. Cirrhosis: Diagnosis and management. Am Fam Physician. 2019;100(12):759-770.

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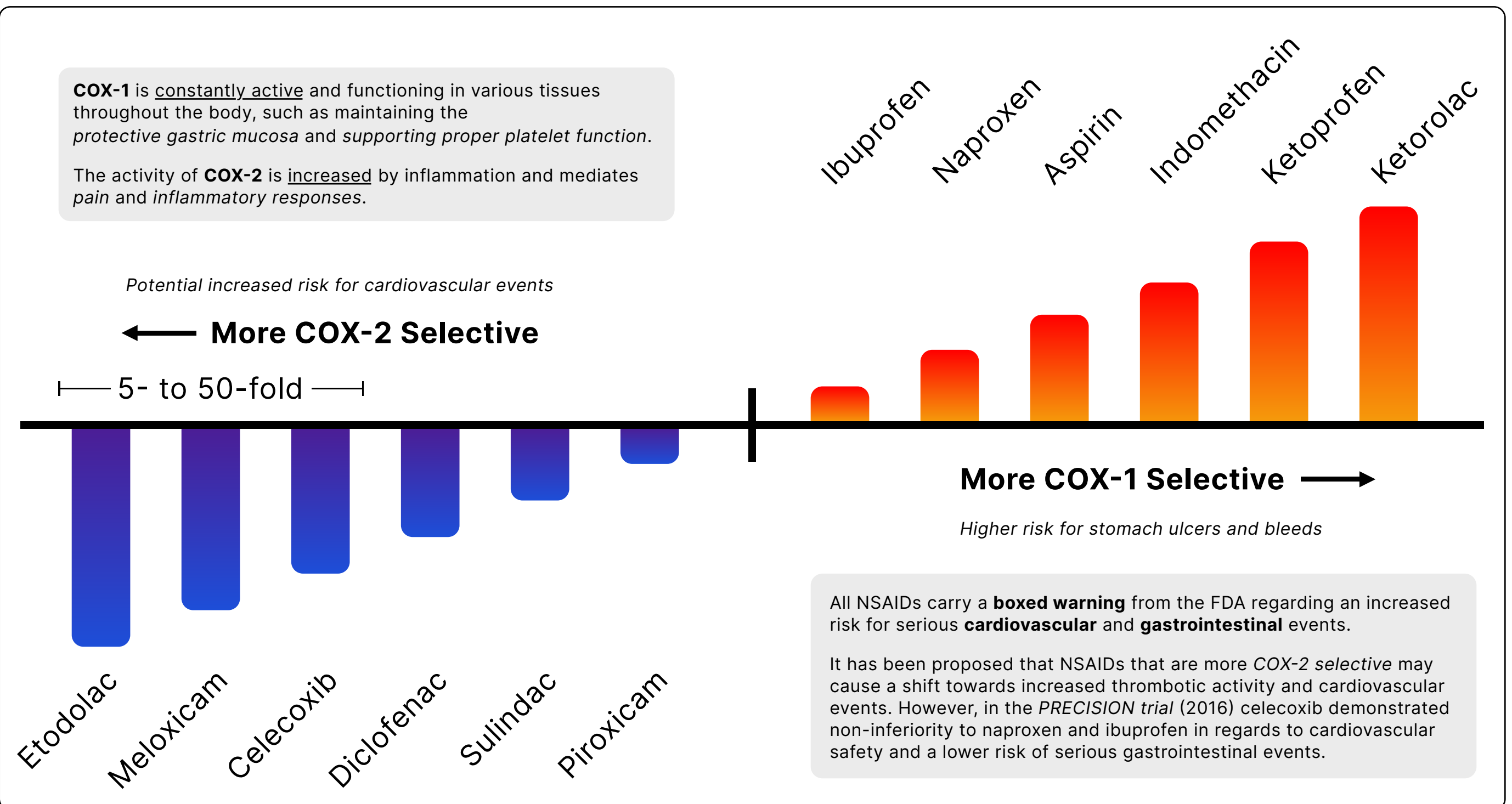


# NSAID Selectivity

NSAIDs (*nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs*) inhibit COX enzymes, **COX-1** and **COX-2**.

Different NSAIDs have varying degrees of **selectivity** for COX-1 and COX-2, which can influence their efficacy and side effect profiles.

*Please note: not all NSAIDs are included in this chart.*



# Topical Corticosteroid Potencies

Table includes common preparations listed alphabetically in each group

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Class 1<br><b>Super Potent</b> | <p><b>Betamethasone dipropionate, augmented 0.05%</b> ointment (<i>Diprolene</i>), gel, lotion</p> <p><b>Clobetasol propionate 0.05%</b>: lotion/shampoo/spray (<i>Clobex</i>), cream/ointment (<i>Temovate</i>), foam (<i>Olux</i>), gel</p> <p><b>Desoximetasone 0.25%</b>: spray (<i>Topicort</i>)</p> <p><b>Diflorasone diacetate 0.05%</b>: ointment (<i>Psorcon</i>)</p> <p><b>Fluocinonide 0.1%</b>: cream (<i>Vanos</i>)</p> <p><b>Flurandrenolide 4 mcg/sq. cm</b>: tape (<i>Cordran</i>)</p> <p><b>Halobetasol propionate 0.05%</b>: cream, ointment, lotion (<i>Ultravate</i>), foam (<i>Lexette</i>)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Class 2<br><b>High Potency</b> | <p><b>Amcinonide 0.1%</b>: ointment (<i>Amcort</i>, <i>Cyclocort</i>)</p> <p><b>Betamethasone dipropionate 0.05%</b>: cream (<i>Diprolene AF</i>)</p> <p><b>Clobetasol propionate 0.025%</b>: cream (<i>Impoyz</i>)</p> <p><b>Desoximetasone 0.05%</b>: gel (<i>Topicort</i>), <b>0.25%</b>: cream/ointment (<i>Topicort</i>)</p> <p><b>Diflorasone diacetate 0.05%</b>: cream (<i>Psorcon</i>), cream-emollient (<i>ApexiCon E</i>)</p> <p><b>Fluocinonide 0.05%</b>: cream/gel/ointment/solution (<i>Lidex</i>)</p> <p><b>Halcinonide 0.1%</b>: cream/ointment/solution (<i>Halog</i>)</p> <p><b>Halobetasol propionate 0.01%</b>: lotion (<i>Bryhali</i>)</p> <p><b>Mometasone furoate 0.1%</b>: ointment (<i>Elocon</i>)</p>                                                                                                                                      |
| Class 3<br><b>High-Medium</b>  | <p><b>Amcinonide 0.1%</b>: cream/lotion (<i>Amcort</i>, <i>Cyclocort</i>)</p> <p><b>Betamethasone valerate 0.1%</b>: ointment (<i>Valisone</i>), <b>0.12%</b>: foam (<i>Luxiq</i>)</p> <p><b>Desoximetasone 0.05%</b>: cream (<i>Topicort LP</i>)</p> <p><b>Fluocinonide 0.05%</b>: cream-emollient (<i>Lidex-E</i>)</p> <p><b>Fluticasone propionate 0.005%</b>: ointment (<i>Cutivate</i>)</p> <p><b>Triamcinolone acetonide 0.5%</b>: cream/ointment (<i>Kenalog</i>, <i>Triderm</i>, <i>Aristocort HP</i>)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Class 4<br><b>Medium</b>       | <p><b>Betamethasone dipropionate 0.05%</b>: spray (<i>Sernivo</i>)</p> <p><b>Clocortolone pivalate 0.1%</b>: cream (<i>Cloderm</i>)</p> <p><b>Fluocinolone acetonide 0.025%</b>: ointment (<i>Synalar</i>)</p> <p><b>Flurandrenolide 0.05%</b>: ointment (<i>Cordran</i>)</p> <p><b>Hydrocortisone valerate 0.2%</b>: ointment (<i>Westcort</i>)</p> <p><b>Mometasone furoate 0.1%</b>: cream/lotion/solution</p> <p><b>Triamcinolone acetonide 0.1%</b>: cream/ointment/spray (<i>Kenalog</i>, <i>Triderm</i>)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Class 5<br><b>Low-Medium</b>   | <p><b>Betamethasone dipropionate 0.05%</b>: lotion (<i>Diprosone</i>)</p> <p><b>Betamethasone valerate 0.1%</b>: cream (<i>Beta-Val</i>, <i>Valisone</i>)</p> <p><b>Desonide 0.05%</b>: lotion (<i>DesOwen</i>)</p> <p><b>Fluocinolone acetonide 0.025%</b>: cream (<i>Synalar</i>)</p> <p><b>Flurandrenolide 0.05%</b>: cream, lotion (<i>Cordran</i>)</p> <p><b>Fluticasone propionate 0.05%</b>: cream, lotion (<i>Cutivate</i>)</p> <p><b>Hydrocortisone butyrate 0.1%</b>: cream/lotion/ointment/solution (<i>Locoid</i>)</p> <p><b>Hydrocortisone probutate 0.1%</b>: cream (<i>Pandel</i>)</p> <p><b>Hydrocortisone valerate 0.1%</b>: cream (<i>Westcort</i>)</p> <p><b>Prednicarbate 0.1%</b>: cream-emollient, ointment (<i>Dermatop</i>)</p> <p><b>Triamcinolone acetonide 0.025%</b>: ointment (<i>Kenalog</i>), <b>0.1%</b>: lotion (<i>Kenalog</i>)</p> |
| Class 6<br><b>Mild</b>         | <p><b>Alclometasone dipropionate 0.05%</b>: cream/ointment (<i>Aclovate</i>)</p> <p><b>Fluocinolone acetonide 0.01%</b>: cream, solution (<i>Synalar</i>), oil (<i>Derma-Smoothe</i>), shampoo (<i>Capex</i>)</p> <p><b>Desonide 0.05%</b>: cream (<i>Tridesilon</i>), gel (<i>Desonate</i>), foam (<i>Verdeso</i>)</p> <p><b>Triamcinolone acetonide 0.025%</b>: cream (<i>Kenalog</i>), lotion (<i>Aristocort</i>)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Class 7<br><b>Least Potent</b> | <p><b>Hydrocortisone acetate/base 0.5%, 1%, 2.5%</b>: cream (<i>Cortizone</i>, <i>Cortaid</i>, <i>MiCort-HC</i>), lotion, ointment, gel</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Nasal Corticosteroid Dosing For Allergic Rhinitis

| NASAL STEROID                                                                                                                                     | ADULT DOSING                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | PEDIATRIC DOSING                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Beclomethasone</b><br><b>Beconase AQ, Qnasl</b><br><i>Rx Only</i>                                                                              | <b>Beconase AQ:</b> 1-2 inhalations (42 mcg/inh) in each nostril twice daily.<br><br><b>Qnasl:</b> 2 sprays (80 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Beconase AQ:</b> <u>Age 6-11 years:</u> 1 inhalation (42 mcg/inh) in each nostril twice daily (168 mcg); If uncontrolled, may increase to 2 inhalation twice daily (336 mcg).<br><br><b>Qnasl:</b> <u>Age 4-11 years:</u> 1 spray (40 mcg) in each nostril once daily (80 mcg total/day).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Budesonide</b><br><b>Rhinocort Allergy</b><br><i>OTC</i><br><br><b>Rhinocort Aqua (DSC)</b><br><i>Rx Only</i>                                  | <b>OTC dosing:</b> 2 sprays (32 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; Reduce to 1 spray/nostril/day once symptoms improve.<br><br><b>Rx dosing:</b> 1-4 sprays (32 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; Use lowest effective dose.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>OTC dosing:</b> <u>Age 6-11 years:</u> 1-2 sprays (32 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; Reduce to 1 spray/nostril/day once symptoms improve.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Flunisolide</b><br><b>Various brands</b><br><i>Rx Only</i>                                                                                     | 2 sprays (25 mcg/spray) in each nostril twice daily; May increase to 2 sprays three times/day.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <u>Age 6-14 years:</u> 1 spray (25 mcg/spray) in each nostril three times daily, or 2 sprays in each nostril twice daily.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Fluticasone</b><br><b>Flonase Allergy</b><br><b>Flonase Sensimist</b><br><i>OTC</i><br><br><b>Flonase</b><br><b>Veramyst</b><br><i>Rx Only</i> | <b>OTC dosing (Flonase Allergy, fluticasone prop.):</b> 2 sprays (50 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; After 1 week, use 1-2 sprays/nostril once daily.<br><br><b>OTC dosing (Flonase Sensimist, fluticasone fur.):</b> 2 sprays (27.5 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; After 1 week, use 1-2 sprays/nostril once daily.<br><br><b>Rx dosing (Flonase, fluticasone prop.):</b> 2 sprays (50 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily or 1 spray twice daily; May reduce to 1 spray/nostril for maintenance therapy.<br><br><b>Rx dosing (Veramyst, fluticasone fur.):</b> 2 sprays (27.5 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; May reduce to 1 spray/nostril for maintenance therapy. | <b>OTC dosing (Flonase Allergy, fluticasone prop.):</b> <u>Age 4-11 years:</u> 1 spray (50 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily.<br><br><b>OTC dosing (Flonase Sensimist, fluticasone fur.):</b> <u>Age 2-11 years:</u> 1 spray (27.5 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily.<br><br><b>Rx dosing (Flonase, fluticasone prop.):</b> <u>Age 4+ years:</u> 1 spray (50 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; If uncontrolled, may increase to 2 sprays/nostril once daily; Reduce to 1 spray/nostril once symptoms improve.<br><br><b>Rx dosing (Veramyst, fluticasone fur.):</b> <u>Age 2-11 years:</u> 1 sprays (27.5 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; If uncontrolled, may increase to 2 sprays/nostril daily; Reduce to 1 spray/nostril once symptoms improve. |
| <b>Mometasone</b><br><b>Nasonex</b><br><i>Rx Only</i>                                                                                             | 2 sprays (50 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <u>Age 2-11 years:</u> 1 spray (50 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Triamcinolone</b><br><b>Nasacort</b><br><i>OTC</i>                                                                                             | 2 sprays (55 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; Reduce to 1 spray/nostril/day once symptoms improve.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>Age 6-11 years:</u> 1 spray (55 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily; If uncontrolled, increase to 2 sprays/nostril once daily; Reduce to 1 spray/nostril/day once symptoms improve.<br><br><u>Age 2-5 years:</u> 1 spray (55 mcg/spray) in each nostril once daily.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## Systemic Corticosteroids Comparison

| CLASS                                 | DRUG               | EQUIVALENT DOSE | MINERALOCORTICOID ACTIVITY | DURATION    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Short-Acting<br>Glucocorticoid        | Hydrocortisone     | 20 mg           | 1                          | 8-12 hours  |
|                                       | Cortisone          | 25 mg           | 0.8                        |             |
| Intermediate-Acting<br>Glucocorticoid | Prednisone         | 5 mg            | 0.8                        | 12-36 hours |
|                                       | Prednisolone       | 5 mg            | 0.8                        |             |
|                                       | Methylprednisolone | 4 mg            | 0.5                        |             |
|                                       | Triamcinolone      | 4 mg            | 0                          |             |
| Long-Acting<br>Glucocorticoid         | Dexamethasone      | 0.75 mg         | 0                          | 36-72 hours |
|                                       | Betamethasone      | 0.6 mg          | 0                          |             |
| Mineralocorticoid                     | Fludrocortisone    | N/A             | 125                        | 18-36 hours |



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